

VHF-UHF Digest

the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

MAY 1979

IN THIS ISSUE:

F2 on U.S. ch 2!

Is your DX gear in top shape?

Mini-station map & list

More technical Q & A



From The Staff:

WTFDA Headquarters, P.O. Box 202, Whiting, Indiana 46394

CONVENTION '79...In the center of this month's issue, you'll find the 1979 WTFDA Convention Registration Form. Make your plans now for our convention in Baltimore on August 3rd, 4th, and 5th. We hope to see you there!

F2 REACHES A2...Here's a bit of late-breaking DX news. Via the 28.885 MHz VHF Information amateur radio net, we have learned that VHF UTILITY DX editor Pat Dyer (WA5IYX) has just seen F2 skip on U.S. ch 2. For about 40 minutes on April 17, Pat saw signals of South American origin--possibly from Venezuela--with the usual characteristics of F2. The F2 MUF may have peaked at around 58 MHz that day. Pat reports video signals only; the MUF would have to rise solidly to 60 MHz to allow audio on ch 2. This is the first report we have of a North American DXer catching F2 skip on ch 2 during the present sunspot cycle. Nice going, Pat!

CORRECTION...In the March issue, we mention that amateur operators on the West Coast of the U.S. have been hearing signs of audio and video signals from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and Korea. That's not quite correct; Japanese ch 1 is above 90 MHz, so while the signals may have been of Asian origination, they definitely were not Japanese. Some of the signals have turned out to be from Soviet sources, probably from Vladivostok (video buzz near 49.75 MHz), and some may have been Korean. Thanks to our Japanese members for pointing this out!

ANOTHER POOR E-SKIP SEASON?...There are some theories that we may be in for another slow Es season. Some DXers believe that the high solar activity will be responsible for many disturbances that will hinder development of intense Es. Let's hope they prove to be wrong. As of this writing, much auroral activity has taken place in the late March through early April.

FEATURE AND TECHNICAL ARTICLES...Here's a reminder that we're always looking for features and technical articles from DXers willing to write them. Got an idea? Don't keep it to yourself! Write us for info on how to prepare an article.

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MAILBOX

John Zondlo
6617 Maryland
Hammond, IN 46323
(219) 844-8694
Deadline: 10th

New Members:

Earl Albin
John Buehler
Johnny Davis
Stephen Mulloranz
A.H. Wiese
Robin Williams

4814 Granada Drive
1716 Heatherdowns Blvd.
83 Westello
303 Devonshire Road
Erminoldstr. 175
"Corn Acres", Dodwell

Valley Station, KY 40272
Toledo, OH 43614
Pocatello, ID 83201
Washington, IL 61571
D-8 Munich 83, WEST GERMANY
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire, ENGLAND
CV37 9ST
Chaprin Falls, OH 44022

James Yates

8615 Tanglewood Trail

Renewals:

Jim Alexander, Robert Baker, Fred Born, Jr., Lynn Burke, John Czarnowski, Clinton Day, Richard Eddie, Eric Fader, William Feidt, Robert Goodman, Roger Cravelle, Michel Guzzi, Harry Hayes, Robert Heckenlively, Hank Holbrook, Guy Kroger, Ron LeBlanc, George McKay, William Ronecker, Bob Seybold, Craig Simons, Lee Vulgamott, William Welch, Robert Williams, Jim and Karen Young.

Renewals Due in June:

Al Albrecht, Richard Allen, Arthur Amarin, Roy Barstow, John Basehore, Jim Brann, Walt Breville, John Combs, Tim Cronin, Robert Dally, Jr., Gordon Draeseke, Jack Faulkner, Karl Forth, Lawrence Glass, Bill Heusmann, Jim Hopkins, George Jensen, Leonard Jozwiak, Michael Lapinski, Lorne Larson, Roland Lindblade, Eldon S. Luoma, Andrew Mahoney, David McBride, Carl McCallum, Fred McCormack, Terry Morris, Gordon Nelson, David Olday, John Phillips, John Pilger, R. Randall, Ron Schatz, Kevin Slater, William Smith, Scott Spalding, Steven Sprachman, Tex Stout, Ralph Strobel, Martin Theil, Alphonse Tobia, Mel Wilson, John Winslow, Charles Zipser.

New member EARL ALBIN is an electrician who's into FM and TV DX. He uses a Heathkit AR1515 stereo receiver and a Heathkit GR2001 TV. Earl learned of the club in Bruce Elving's FM Atlas.

From potato country comes JOHNNY DAVIS. He's a TV DXer employed as an electronic technician. Popular Electronics pointed him toward WTFDA.

Tidbits.....

This section begins on a sad note this month. Fred Nordquist passes word that member Allen Rockford died March 29th after a long illness. He was 35 years old. Allen was an announcer and newscaster for WONO Syracuse NY until 1976, where he handled the station's classical music programming in the morning. He was an authority on old time radio shows, and for many years operated Double-R Radio, a business specializing in tapes and recordings of old time radio shows. All of us at HQ are saddened by his death, and we extend condolences to the family.

We have some interesting comments from new member A.H. WIESE (address above): "I'm a little bit disappointed about the VHF-UHF Digest because in the (sample) issue you sent me I haven't found any news or articles other than things concerning North American DXers. But you are qualifying your association as 'worldwide'. Nevertheless, I'm joining your association and I'm hoping your bulletin will spend more space for the worldwide aspect of our hobby. Perhaps I'll be able to send you some news here from Europe." We love having news on TV-FM DX outside North America! Let's hear from our foreign members this month. Send your reports to International Notes editor Ken Simon, 513 6th Ave. S., Lake Worth, FL 33460.

Member Rick Samford (404 S. McNeill, Burnet, TX 78611) is looking for the following back issues of the VUD: all of 1970, 1971, 1972, 1/73 to 4/73, 6/73 to 11/73, 8/74, 1/76, 5/76, and 7/76 to 12/76. If you have any of these issues and would care to part with them, contact Rick.

Tanio Supihara (1107-1 Enya-cho, Izumo-shi, Shimane, 693 Japan) has heard great reports of F2 skip in his part of the world. He says Japanese hams on the 6 meter band have worked such countries as Thailand, New Caledonia, Brazil, Argentina, Canada and the United States. Hope some of our members in Japan and on the west coast took advantage of the skip to log some Asian and Australian TV audio.

Interested in TV reception in the 1930's? There's a new book out called Television in the Thirties, which features a description of television reception in the United States during the 1930's, with personal accounts by author Raymond Bell. For more info, write University Microfilms International, Box 1346, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. See y'all next month.....73.....jz

IS YOUR SYSTEM DX-READY?

The Es season is here, and FM, TV, and PSB DX is an everyday possibility. Even if DX conditions are super, the amount of DX that you can catch is directly related to the condition of your DX system. Whether you notice or not, your DX set-up gradually changes—usually very slowly—for the worst.

Everything wears with age, even electronic equipment. Most often, we can't really tell what's happening to it—it's a very subtle process. In fact, unless you have just upgraded your gear or put together a new DX set-up, the DX system you used last season has lost a bit of gain, due to a variety of factors. Fortunately, most of today's receivers are transistorized, and don't go "out of spec" very soon. The big advantage of transistor gear is the very high degree of reliability that we have come to take for granted from solid-state components. Tuners and mast-mounted preamps that are transistorized are not inherently "fail-safe", but can be counted on to maintain optimum performance over much longer periods of time than was ever possible with tubes.

Many DXers still prefer to use tube-type and/or tube-plus-transistor (hybrid) equipment. There are some good reasons for this. Tubes can provide much greater overload protection than transistors, and can be easily operated in certain extreme environmental conditions, such as extreme heat. Also, tube-type equipment lends itself to modification far more easily than modular solid-state gear, as those of us who have been attempting to convert U.S. TV receivers to foreign TV standards have learned. While tubes do have their limited advantages, it should be remembered that they simply cannot provide the very low noise figures possible with the latest solid-state tuners and preamps.

Another insidious process that tends to downgrade our DX gear is mechanical wear, which comes in many forms, such as metal fatigue and strain. In FM receivers, dial cords often break, although some designs have eliminated this problem using gears. In TV receivers, the mechanical turret-type VHF tuner seems to be on the way out, being replaced by random-access keyboard tuning with digital readout (similar to programmable scanners), or pushbutton varactor tuning. Unfortunately, memory fine tuning seems to be on the way out—this is unfortunate for TV DXers.

Veteran DXers always make sure that their DX gear is in top shape; they are aware of the slow downgrading of performance that their systems are subject to. Here's what you can do to make sure your system is operating at peak DX capability:

TUNERS—Mechanical wear is a large problem. For TV tuners, the older turret-types need to be cleaned at least once a year, and frequently more often. Both "wafer" and "disk" type TV tuners suffer from an oxidation buildup that causes intermittent snow, especially on weak signals. Tuner cleaner can be obtained in most electronics outlets; it comes in spray cans and is very easy to use. In tube-type sets, the RF amplifier tube must be kept in top shape for peak DX results. The oscillator/mixer stage is also important. In a tube-type TV, there are usually only two tubes to worry about in the tuner—keep both of them in top condition, testing frequently (use a professional type tube tester—capacitance type—not a drugstore model).

LEAD-IN—Your transmission line connects your DX antennas with the receivers. It's often the reason that signal levels have degraded. Although some DXers find it hard to accept, T-line, be it high quality coaxial cable or low-cost twin lead, wears out. Twin lead is often subject to mechanical wear when it's allowed to "flap" in the wind, and this holds true for coax sometimes, too. Care should be taken to see that the T-line hasn't cracked, or allowed to take in water. Many DXers have been shocked to see what they've been missing merely by replacing old lead-in!

These are really just two major areas to keep a close check on. You can avoid missing choice DX catches by anticipating the effects that age has on all parts of your DX system. Antenna oxidation is a very real problem—it can change the feedpoint impedance of your antenna. On FM receivers, dial cords should be checked frequently; and on older models, don't overlook regular tube maintenance. The DXer who's properly prepared is the one who "cleans up!" -bt



KCC TV NEWS

John F. Coombs
2485 Ivan Ct.
Orlando FL 32807
(305) 677-0066

May 1979

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS GRANTED

Homewood AL, Ch. 21, 22, 673
Mountain View AR, Ch. 6-, 100, 1390 (ETV)
Salisbury MD, Ch. 47, 2570, 990
Oklahoma City OK, Ch. 34-, 1343, 1209
Amarillo TX, Ch. 14+, 113, 812

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

St. Petersburg FL, Ch. 38, 5000, 1121
Memphis TN, Ch. 30, 100, 570

TRANSLATOR APPLICATIONS (Selected)

Marshall MN, Ch. 30 (KSTP-5), 1000-w
Bowling Green OH, Ch. 27 (WBCU-57), 1000-w

TRANSLATOR CONSTRUCTION PERMITS (Selected)

Coos Bay, Coquille, and N. Bend OR:
K17AA (KOAF-10), 1000-w
Lawton OK: K36AB (KETA-13), 1000-w
Lowry SD: K56AX (KPLO-6), 1000-w
CHANGES GRANTED IN OPERATING STATIONS
WESH-2 Daytona Beach FL to 1650 AAT (940)
WCET-48 Cincinnati OH to 2234, 1070, gets
own tower (formerly shared with WCPO-9)
CHANGES IN CALL LETTERS
KDLH-3 Duluth MN (ex-KDAL)

LO AND BEHOLD! I was able to obtain a machine with smaller type this time. When one does not own a typewriter, he makes do with whatever he can lay his hands on each month! This may be the shortest column on record as my academic endeavors take much of my time. I haven't had a chance to compile any information sent to me, nor have I been able to scan the past month issues of Broadcasting. I can only hope that I will be able to do so next time!! 73, JOHN..

STATION BREAK

WTFA Headquarters
Post Office Box 202
Whiting, IN 46394

WTFA member ads only. 30 word or 3 line limit.

WANTED - VUD Back Issues: June, Nov., Dec. '72; April, Sept., Oct. '73; Jan., Feb., Mar. '77. Please help complete my collection. Write stating price and condition. John Walters, R.D. 3 - Acorn Drive, Vincentown, NJ 08088.

WANTED - Heathkit AJ-15 and/or Sony ST-5130 tuner; good condition. Peter Sawatzky, R.R. #4, Guelph, Ontario, CANADA, N1H 6J1 or call (519)822-7496 (Best between 9 p.m. & 12 midnight).

Your non-commercial ad can appear in the VUD free of charge! Got a piece of DX gear you'd like to sell? Looking for something? Advertise in **STATION BREAK**

BOB COOPER HOSTING TV SERIES-- BUT DON'T LOOK FOR IT ON YOUR LOCALS

One of the world's most avid and successful TV DXers is now an "international TV star"--sort of. CATJ magazine editor Bob Cooper hosts "Satellite Magazine", a special program aimed at CATV industry audiences at 1200 (Eastern time) on Thursdays, on transponder 24 of the SATCOM II satellite. The program is produced by CATJ in cooperation with the University of Oklahoma, and like CATJ, contains features that are often of interest to TV DXers. For example, one recent segment featured an interview with "notorious" TV bootlegger David Brough, Ontario pirate TV operator (April 1978 VUD, page 27). We also caught a view of some of Bob's DX gear on the show! The program is carried on the same transponder that feeds HBO (Home Box Office) STV service to CATV firms, so if you're an HBO subscriber, you may be able to catch it.

-bt



FM NEWS

Bruce F. Elyng, Ph.D., Editor
18 1/2 East Fifth Street
Duluth MN 55805

New FM Stations Granted

[Radio
AZ Phoenix KIAI *89.5 1500; 89 w, Public/
AR Augusta 97.7 3000 h.v.; 300'
CA Holtville (near El Centro) 100.1 3000 h.v.;

280'; gospel music

CO Denver *88.3 58500; 810'; "Granaffon"

ID Grangeville 92.7 790 h.v.; 67'; rock

ID Orofino 95.3 680 h.v.; -750'; m

IA Des Moines *89.3 10 "Black Theology"

IA Harlan 105.5 3000 h.v.; 300'; m

KS Arkansas City 108.5 100000; 380'

KS Fort Scott 103.9 3000 h.v.; 300'; rk

KS Wellington 93.5 3000 h.v.; 165'; m

M International Falls 94.3 3000 h.v.; 123'; rk

NE Terrytown (near Scottsbluff) 103.9 3000;

108 feet above average terrain; gospel music,

NV Las Vegas *91.5 15000 45' U of NV

OR Baker 95.3 3000 h.v.; 280'; m

OR Gold Hill 100.3 31000; 900'; rock

OR Ridge, "Tri Cities," and Canyonville K220AB

*91.9 \$, or 10 watts, KSOR *90.1 Ahland

OR translator; ABC-FM (not P) affiliated.

SC Orangeburg *91.9 10 g; "Word of Faith"

TN Signal Mountain *91.5 200 h.v.; 850' Ghatt.

Tech.

TX Refugio 106.3 3000 h.v.; 300'

TX Terrell (not near Terrell Hills) 107.1 3000

horizontal and vertical; 300'; [k] union;

AT Courts and Milk River 90.9 720w-CBC, CBR

MB Winnipeg 103.1 100000, m most likely

NF St. John's 105.9 45600 CBC-French

PQ Magog 106.1 1600; rock

PQ Trois Rivières 102.3 11000

SA Southend 81.7 425 CBC-CBK relay

On Air and DX Ready (presumed)

CA Palm Springs KPSH-FM *88.3 10 1010'

CA Red Bluff KSNR 95.9 280 h.v.; 300'

CA Sacramento KYDS *91.5 10

FL LaBelle WYHG 92.1 3000 h.v.; 300'

LA New Orleans WBSN-FM *89.1 10 g; ~89.1

NY Houghton WJSL *90.3 10

TX Perryton KEYE-FM 95.9 3000h.v.; 300'

NonIDs or Slogans

FL Clearwater WQXM 97.9 98-Rock, not

Rock-98

FL Miami WAlA 97.3 Stereo 97 and back to

alternate use of their former nonID: A-1-A.

FL Mount Dora-Orlando WORJ 107.7 Zeta-7

FL Naples-Fort Myers WUVU 94.5 Stereo 94

and Sea-View

FL Titusville WRMF-FM 98.3 FM-98

FL Winter Haven WPCV 97.5 FM-97

MA Yonkers WCOD 108.1 FM-106

OH Toledo WQOT 104.7 FM-104

ON London CPFL-FM 96.9 FM-96, never

using legal call letters!

ON London CBL 100.5 CBC-Stereo,

never using legal call letters.

On air in Stereo

DE Georgetown WSEA 89.5

FL Vero Beach WAVV 105.5, rock [101-Q

GBRundevick WPIQ 101.5 r (was k); /

KS Dodge City KTTL 93.9

KY Bowling Green WLB3-FM 96.7 rp (from

kp); "Natural 97" and "FM 97."

MD Garrettsville WAQA 103.1

MI Frankfort WBNZ 98.3, m

OH Xenia WBI 95.1, r, 1-95

OR Ashland KKIC 101.7, CBS

OR Medford KBQY-FM 95.3

PA Saugatown WYSS 94.3, rock

TX El Paso KLAQ 95.5, rp

ON London CIXX 106.9 r (not c & talk)

Mexico, Tijuana BCN XETRA-FM *91.1, rock,

"91-X-FM."

NO STEREO, but previously listed as such:

ON London CBCL 93.5, CBL (AM) Toronto

relayer.

Facilities' Changes

AL Mobile WABB-FM 97.5 840' (100000h.v.)

AK Adak AFR-FM 101.1 height estimated

by our local reporter at 110' (and based on

how far he says they get out); h only.

AK Shemya AFR-FM 101.1 1300 h.v.; est.

height 200 feet above average terrain.

CA Fresno KVPK *89.3 430' (50000h.v.)

CO Way K237AK 95.3 changes from trans-

lating KXXX-FM 100.3 Colby KS to the

translating of KFNH 101.1 Oberlin KS,

\$, k, and Associated Press Audio.

FL Palatka WIYD 99.9 950' (100000 h.v.),

k (from m); "Y-Country FM," and "Stereo

100," soon having Jacksonville coverage.

FL Tallahassee WGLF 104.1 100000 h.v. (440')

KY Hopkinsville WKOA-FM 100.3 100000

h.v.; 600 feet above average terrain.

KY Paducah WPAD-FM 96.9 100000h.v.; 330'

LA Farmerville WKJM 92.7 290' (3000 h.v.)

ME Presque Isle WMEM *106.1 98000h.v. (1080')

M Grand Rapids WJFM 97.7 back up to their

formerly authorized full power of 500000

h.v. (vertical increases from 100 kw); 780';

with coverage at 53 miles primary, 111

secondary. Transmitter used to be at

Plainville MI, but now believed to be closer

to Grand Rapids.

MO DeJón KLDN 92.7 790 h.v.; 590'

NM Albuquerque KFMG 107.3 22500 h.v.;

4130'; LA Farmville WKJM 92.7 290' (3000 h.v.)

NY Hamilton WRCU *90.1 1900 h.v.; 150'

NY Poughkeepsie WVKR *91.3 1000 h.v.; 85'

NY Syracuse WMRH 102.9 20000h.v.; 720'

NC Raleigh WCPE *99.7 33300 (h); (255')

ND Minot K12Z 93.7 80000 (h); (800')

PA Altoona WYAM-FM 100.1 3000 h.v.; 17',

"Rock 100."

PA Bellwood WHGM 103.9 has v, says a local

reporter, but not appearing as v on any

published list.

WABellvue KZAM-FM 92.5 100000 h.v. (1100')

WABellingham KISM 92.9 50000 h.v. (2440');

adds A (from ABC Contemporary [Y]).

WAYskima KIT-FM 94.5 25000 h.v. (910')

WI Kenosha WGTD *91.1 6000 h.v.; 135'

WI Menomonie WMEG 92.1 1300 h.v.; 430'

PR Camaguey WCHO 102.9 50000 h.v.; 58'

MEXICO, Tijuana BCN XHRM 92.5 50000

h.v.; 749'

Call Letters Assigned or Changed

AL Eufaula 92.7 WLAZ (WULA-FM)

AL Haleyville 92.7 WJBB-FM

AK Fairbanks 101.1 KAME

AREI Dorado 99.3 KLBQ (KRIL)

103.1 KAYZ (KEZU)

AR Jacksonvill 100.3 KEZQ (KGMR-FM)

AR Little Rock 95.7 KSSN (KXXA)

AR Pochantans 103.9 KCVN (KPCO-FM)

CA Healdsburg 92.9 KREO (KJHP)

CA Oroville 97.7 KEWE (KFAM)

CA Red Bluff 102.3 KKRBB [FM]

FL Fort Walton Beach 99.3 WFTW (WFTW/-

GA Wrens 96.7 WRNZ ("Wrens")

ID Idaho Falls 99.1 KQPI-FM (KUPI-FM)

ID Aledo 102.3 WRMJ

IL Springfield *88.9 WQNA

IA Fort Dodge *91.1 KTPR

IA Mason City 98.3 KCMR

LA Baton Rouge *89.3 WKRF

MI Kalkaska 97.7 WKLT

MI Whitehall 95.3 WTRW (from WLRO), r,

strict nonID as "Rock 95."

MS Cleveland 97.7 WOAZ (WDLT)

NE Blair 106.3 KBWH

NE Kearney 108.9 KQKY

NE North Platte 94.9 KODY-FM

NE Omaha 104.5 KESY-FM (KODD-FM)

NH Rochester 95.7 WNNH-FM

NM Las Vegas 100.9 KLVF (KFUN-FM)

NY Buffalo 104.1 WWOR (WWOL-FM),

k, but still nonIDing as "Country 104.1"

NY Oswego 101.7 WWMW (WEBO-FM)

NY Rochester 105.0 WYOR-FM (WVOR)

NY Southampton 95.9 WKYP (WWRJ) rm now.

OH Conneaut 105.5 WGOJ (WFIZ)

PA Williamsport *88.1 WWAS

SC Columbia 104.7 WNOK-FM (WNOK-FM)

SC St. George 100.7 WQIZ-FM (WQWR)

SC Waltherboro 107.9 WKYP (WALD-FM)

TN Lenoirville 94.3 WPTT (WTHJ)

UT Salt Lake City *90.9 KRCL

WV Granton 100.9 WQIT-FM

AT Edmonton 100.3 CKXM-FM (CFRN-FM)

BC Vancouver 89.8 CFXX (CKLW-FM)

ON Sarnia 108.3 CBEC, apparently not

CBC, although Broadcasting Yearbook

'79 says CBEC.

Formats/Networks

AK Fort Greely AFR-FM 90.5 m (and Fort

Greely's located about 125 mi SE of Fair-

banks near Big Delta and Delta Junction AK)

AK Shemya AFR-FM 90.5 rk; S (AP Audio),

height estimated at 200', monaural.

CASan Diego KITT 105.3 rs (Discos). Stereo?

CASan Francisco K101 101.3 rm - was disco.

CASan Francisco K101 101.3 rm - was disco.

CA Fresno KMJ-FM 97.9 r (from c)

CO Colorado Springs K102 93.9 rp

DC Washington WRQX 107.3 r (from rp)

FL Green Cove Springs WKUE 92.7 m, 92-K.

FL Tallahassee WBSG 98.9 r (from m)

GA Columbus WVOC 102.9h, v, 103 - one

reporter thinks they may have gone to vertical

(as well as the usual horizontal) polarization

because of improved reception of WVOC on

his car radio, but this station has always been

only h, and no word from FCC that v has even

been applied for on their part!

GADouglas WDMG-FM 98.5 mono r simulcast

of AM.

GA Valdosta WLGA 95.9 r - not m!

IL Crest Hill WCCO 88.3 m (from r); yet no \$7

IL Elmwood Park WJFM 105.9 still c/pmp.

IN Elkhart WXXA 104.7 gm

KS Herington KHOK 100.9 r, Stereo.

KS Hutchinson KHUT 102.9 m

KS Lyons KLOQ 106.1 r, including translators.

KS Larned KANS-FM 96.7 k

KS Salina KYEZ 93.7 r (from m)

KY Brandenburg WMMG 93.5 r (not k), G-93

LANew Orleans WEZB 97.1 rs (from m)

MA Fitchburg WFMF 104.5 mono r (from k)

"M-104."

MI Detroit WTRW 92.3 r (from rm)

WJR-FM 96.3 no NBC any more

WBFG 96.7 no UPI Audio

MI Fremont WSHN-FM 100.1 r (from kg)

MI Lapeer WTHM-FM 103.1 k (from rm)

MI Mount Clemens (not Mount Clemens as

spelled on my maps, FM Atlas '78) WLBS

102.7 rs (so-called "Disco").

MI Port Huron WSAW 107.1 km

NH Nashua WQW-FM 106.3 r (from k)

NY Atlantic WBT 101.7 k and sports (not km)

NC Charlotte WRQO 95.1 r (from rp)

NC Concord WPEC 97.9 rs ("Disco 98"), Mutual

FCC--FM

NCHickory WXXR 95.7 r (from k). "X-Rock"
 NCNorth Wilkesboro WKBC-FM 97.3 r (was nr)
 NCStateville W000 96.9 r (was nr), Triple O-97
 WFMX 105.7 Mutual
 OHCleveland WDMT 107.9 r, now "Disco 108"
 OHCleveland Heights WLYT 92.3 r (one of two
 stations this month going against the trend and
 dropping disco); "92-Rock"
 OHEaton WJAI 92.9 k (from m)
 OHHamilton WOKV 103.3 r
 OHLondon WSYX 106.3 m; still monophonic
 OHToledo WMHE 92.5 rs
 OKKlamath Falls KJSN 92.5 m (from r)
 PA Altoona WFBG-FM 98.1 mc
 PA Clearfield WCPA-FM 93.5 k (from m), C-93
 PA Johnstown WJAC-FM 95.5 m (was mc), no M
 WJHL-FM 96.5 r (was rm), "Music
 96.5," stereo now.
 PA Tamaqua WZTA 105.5 Mutual

SC Anderson WAIM-FM 101.1 rp
 TN Red Bank WSM 94.3 r (from rp); simulcast
 with AM.
 WASeattle KIXI-FM 95.7 m (from m)
 WYMartinsburg WESM 97.5 r (from m)
 WYLaramie KIDZ 102.9 C (from M)
 AT Edmonton CJCA-FM 97.3 p (from k)
 AT Lethbridge CHEP-FM 100.9 r (from mc);
 new owners pledge to change frequency and
 improve station's coverage.
 ONNorth Bay CKAT 93.7 k (from mk)
 ONToronto CHFI 98.1 m (from mc)
 SCA ("67 kHz") Activity
 Ft. Clearwater WOKF 95.7 PRM (Q)
 FL Orlando WDIZ 100.3 m (from g)
 FL St. Petersburg WQYK 95.5 no SCA
 WKES*101.5 X (audible
 telemetry or teleprinter)

GA Perry WPGA-FM 100.9 no SCA; telemetry/
 IL De Kalb WNUU *89.5 talking book and farm
 IL Urbana WILL FM *90.9 talking book, farm
 NYNew York WRFM 105.1 XG: Besides usual
 teleprinter noise has talking g 7:30 to 8:30 Sat.
 nights for Mormon Church; DXers should check
 other LDS-owned FM stations, like WCLR 101.1
 Skokie IL to see if they too have occasional g or
 their SCA channels.
 DRAshtand KSOR *90.1 to have talk (programs
 on nursing and telemetry); or, or also on KSOR
 translators.
 TN Hendersonville WBYQ 92.1 occasional sports
 and special events (TS).

Abbreviations: c classical, e ethnic, g gospel, k
 (not C&W) country, m middle of the road (no
 rock--more like easy-listening music, which
 differs from the definition of m used by the
 radio industry), n news (all news), p progressive

rock, r rock oldies, or rock hits, or rock sounds that never made a "hit list," or easy rock, or anything on that order (what the industry loosely calls
 "contemporary"), s soul, t all talk--talk other than all-news. Disco is rs or sr; "album-oriented rock" is a term that seems to be fading in usage in the
 industry, but it is generally abbreviated rp or pr. Network: A American Broadcasting Company FM (frequency modulation) Network, B National Black
 Network, C Columbia Broadcasting System, CBC Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, E American Broadcasting Company Entertainment Network, I
 American Broadcasting Company Information Network, M Mutual Broadcasting System, N National Broadcasting Company, P National Public Radio, S
 Associated Press Audio, U United Press Audio, Y American Broadcasting Company Contemporary Network, Z Mutual Black Network. \$ is stereo, * is an
 educational station, and t stands for SCA, "subsidiary communications authorization," usually at 67 kHz removed from the center of an FM radio station
 carrier. PRM (Q) is Physicians Radio Network, exclusively an SCA creature.

***** READERS' REPORTS *****

If you want to DX on a luxury ship forget it, says John Ebeling, who says "Below top deck in a ship--even in
 Miami where dock was close to many transmitters, band was dead! Didn't think FM would be affected so much in
 steel ship." Two Chicago-area DXers were nice enough to send the March 4, 1979 Chicago Tribune Magazine with
 several articles on Chicago FM and AM radio, including a dial excursion on what can be heard on area radio stations
 some of which, like 107.1 Lowell's WLCL probably take DX-type equipment to bring in in Chicago itself. One arti-
 cle is headlined, "The Rise of FM has driven AM Radio Executives to Despair." I've been sharing the articles with a
 blind friend who travels to Chicago quite often and is interested in radio there.

Greg Monti thinks WQVE 93.5 Mechanicsburg PA is stereo, but until I hear for sure, it'll be listed as mono.
 He comments on WJFM going back to 500 kw (flip back a page under "facilities"): Wonder how come they didn't
 lose their grandfather? Those crooks!

Randall Clark, who has been traveling in North Carolina, says WDAV Davidson is on 90.5 not 89.9, but WDAV
 has a construction permit for 89.9, so on 89.9 it will stay as far as my records are concerned! He also sent a clipping
 that WXL 96.1 Parkersburg WV is being sued for failure to pay for merchandise.

Ken Simon sent an article on the derivation of early FM radio station call letters from p. 134 of the book,
 American Broadcasting, by Lawrence Lichty and Malachi T. Topping. This excerpt, however, I believe was lifted from
 Chris Sterling's article on the history of WTMJ-FM Milwaukee, p. 342, Journal of Broadcasting, fall, 1968, as the word-
 ing is identical in both accounts. Another of my subscribers to the FM ATLAS puts out the Aircheck Factory
 News, published in the Chicago area, with news of announcers' fates and fortunes and some format data. From
 Japan we learn that there is no SCA there, with the Postal Ministry now studying how SCA might be implemented.
 The commercial stations there, more so than NHK, are interested.

Maine's Rod O'Connor supplied the Alaskan FM station updates, as well as drawings of the Shemya and Adak
 transmitting antennae, which confirm v at Shemya but h only at Adak (Adak's antenna looks like a single section
 Collins 87-M antenna).

From Michigan, Philip Boersma says WKJR-FM Muskegon Heights gets a horrible "birdie" each time
 it turns on its SCA for transmitter readings (the only thing the SCA is used for). So he gave a copy of the
 article on SCA that was in the January Audio to WKJR-FM's chief engineer.

The interim operation of KEFM 96.1 Omaha is profitable. Some 80% of the profits are to be given to
 charity under the agreement, which keeps KEFM on the air (along with KOIL-AM) until permanent
 owners of the facilities are decided by the FCC. In Alaska, a new student-operated 3 kw \$ rock station
 may be started as an alternative to KUAC *104.7 Fairbanks. From Ontario, Pete Sawatzky sends word
 from the University of Guelph that the students there may apply for a low-powered FM station, on the
 order of CKWR 98.7 Kitchener and CKMS 94.6 Waterloo.

CONTRIBUTORS last month: Guy Allen, Houston TX; Randall S. Clark, Parkersburg WV; Bill Felt, Euclid OH; Ted Fleischaker,
 Louisville KY; one of the owners of KRJB (FM) Monte Rio CA whose signature I cannot make out; Greg Leo, Lincolnshire IL; Fred
 McCormack, Fargo ND; George J. Mileto, Lynn MA; David W. Miser, Xenia OH; Greg Monti, Bayville NY; Pete Nordgren, K9SS (FM) Bemidji
 MN; R. J. O'Connor, South Portland ME; Steven Shaffer, Hammond IN; Robert Steadman, Milwaukee WI; Bill Thompson, Buffalo NY; David
 L. Walcutt, Houston TX; Warren R. Wilson, Valley Forge PA. THIS MONTH: Aircheck Factory News, Franklin Park IL; Leo Bosh, Grand
 Island NE; P. Boersma, Spring Lake MI; Clark, John F. Comb, Orlando FL; Mike Dornier, Jr., Metairie LA; John Ebeling, Bloomington MN;
 Robert Fischer, Fairbanks AK; Larry Geller, Tokyo JAPAN; Morris Goldman, Chicago IL; Dave Grin, Akron OH (who can pack more FM
 station news onto one postcard than I could believe!); Dave Hecall, Fortville IN; Guy A. Krier, Sioux City IA; J. M. Mangascara, Altoona
 PA; Mike Marzullo, Lynnwood WA; Frank Merritt, Toledo OH; Greg Monti, Bayville NY; Gary Olson, Lake Forest IL; O'Connor, John Perillo,
 Glend OH; Jim Pizzi, Orono CA; John Robertson, Crowell ME; G. Saba, Great Falls VA; Edmund A. Schantz, Germantown MD; Scott
 Spalding, Ashland OR; Peter V. Taylor, San Francisco CA; Thompson; Charles H. Warriner, McCook NE; Larry Weil, Acton MA; John Zondlo,
 Hammond IN.

To the right: Rod O'Connor's drawing of the AFR-FM Shemya AK vertical and horizontal antennae:

The Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission recently issued a report on
 broadcasting, 1968-78. Among highlights: "The change of real significance is the audience share attraction
 from AM to FM stations. The swing to FM is likely to increase as more FM stations come into operation..."



GULF TR MAKES A LATE MARCH RETURN

Rick Sanford, 404 S. McNeill, Burmet, TX 78611 - March 7 to April 3 CST
Equip.: Kenwood KR-5400 rx, 10-e'. Archer FM at 24 ft. w/rotor.

3/2 tr		3/28 tr	
0719 KREF 104.1 LA Monroe, ID	385	0024 KONE 98.5 FL Panama City, "Q-98," ID	
0731 KNEZ 104.1 LA Monroe, "FM-104," ID		0116 KNSJ 94.9 AL Mobile, PS, ID	610
0735 KHON 102.1 LA Houma, wx, ID	470	0120 KABB 97.5 AL Mobile, wx, "97-Rock"	
0747 KATN 102.0 LA Crowley, ad	365	0131 KNEZ 94.1 FL Pensacola, ID	665
3/27 tr		0159 KLEP 96.1 AL Mobile, ID	
2246 WOKY 100.7 LA Baton Rouge, ID	435	0202 KMRG 99.9 AL Mobile, ID, later	
2259 WJAB 107.3 FL Pensacola, wx 2/ID		with "G-100" slogan	
2259 WRBO 104.7 FL Tampa, ID	985	0229 KJGI 103.3 LA Hammond, ID	475
"Q-105 is The Electric FM"		0231 KTKX 101.5 FL Pensacola, ad w/ID,	
2359 WYLD 98.5 LA New Orleans, ID	500	"TK-101"	
"The Midnight Concert on FM-98"		0326 KTHX 106.7 AL Enterprise, ID	745
3/28 tr		0401 KTYX 94.7 MS Jackson, ID	500
0022 WRFO 99.5 LA New Orleans, ID,		"94-Ticks"	
"Rock-90"		0650 KBAM 98.9 AL Montgomery, ID	710
0035 WPFM 107.9 FL Panama City, ID	765	3/30 tr	
0040 WXBW 102.7 FL Milton, ID, "X-102"	680	2358 KMQO 96.7 TX Mineola, s/off	205
		claiming to be EZ in day & rk in eve.	

After reading the March "FEC FM News" and reviewing my tapes again, I've discovered two errors in my March report. On 1/25 at 1919 I had KHVZ instead of the correct KMVC and on 1/27 at 1917 I had KLAN-Ogden? which turns out to be KZAN in Ogden.

Vernon Eaton, 82 Springhill Acres, Benton, AR 72015 - Jan. 1, 79 to Feb. 23, 79
Equip.: 5130 Sony tuner w/hor. stacked CM ant. @ 55', CD 44 rotor. 374 stations logged including 13 new loggings and my 99th freq. logged. 501-847-2066

Not much happening down here except the coldest January and first two weeks in February the coldest on record. From 1/18 to 1/14 I deserted my radio because it was too cold. I now find that a beautiful opening w/both Es and Tr in many areas in my part of the country happened 1/25 when there was record breaking cold outside. I learned one thing, check the radio each day. Anything's possible in any weather. (Probably that is true but, let's keep in mind that Es takes place so high up in the atmosphere that it is not directly related or affected by the weather on the earth's surface. DB)

Had some fantastic openings 2/14, 2/20, 2/21 and 2/23. Feb. 20 (pm) and Feb. 21 early (am) was terrific. Got 10 new loggings in three hours. I got sleepy or would of received more. 73-Vernon

1/1 (all tr)		1/13 (1cy)	
0930 WITZ 93.3 KY Paducah, ID	300	0908 KQBC 90.7 MO Joplin	200
1/4		1300 WQDS 91.3 KY Murray, ID	370
0200 KVPV 105.5 LA Leesville, ID	250	1318 KVEL 92.1 LA Winfield	220
1/3		1850 KXMR 93.3 TX Fort Arthur, ID	350
0135 KRAV 96.5 OK Tulsa, \$	200	1854 WCPG 93.3 MS Houston, ID	250
0151 KMRJ 96.9 KS Pittsburg, ID	250	1905 KEEC 94.7 OK Oklahoma City, ID	350
0208 KZBW 97.9 TX Dallas	275	1908 WKXI 94.7 MS Jackson, \$	250
0210 KPLX 99.5 TX Dallas		1/14	
1737 KIOR 107.5 TX Ft. Worth	285	0925 KFJZ 97.1 TX Ft. Worth, \$	285
1/6		0930 KOAX 105.3 TX Dallas, \$	275
0940 WKIV 106.7 MS Vicksburg	200	1/17	
1/10		1730 KUMR 88.5 MO Rolla, \$	250
0122 KTKX 95.9 TX Kilgore, ID	200	1/18	
1/12		0300 WSM 95.5 TN Nashville, ID, \$	350
1755 KMGJ 102.9 TX Dallas, ID, \$		0304 WKIX 97.9 TN Nashville, \$	
1800 KJCS 103.3 TX Nacogdoches, \$	240	0312 WKTA 106.9 TN McKensie, ID, \$	275
2230 KUMR 88.5 MO Rolla, \$	250	0330 WHEC 103.1 MS Columbus, ID	300
2234 KUHF 88.7 TX Houston	380	1315 WZZQ 102.9 MS Jackson, \$	250
2240 KETR 88.9 TX Commerce, \$	220	1726 WKYQ 93.3 KY Paducah, ID, \$	300
2309 KCUR 89.3 MO Kansas City, \$	350	1735 KMBQ 93.7 LA Shreveport, \$	200
2310 KWGS 89.5 OK Tulsa			
1/13 (1cy)		2/14, first warm spell since early Jan. 55 F	
0855 KERA 90.1 TX Dallas,	275	2300 KATT 100.5 OK Oklahoma City, ID, \$	300
		cont.	

2/14 all tr
 2302 KKMG 92.5 OK Oklahoma City, \$ 300
 2304 KEEC 94.7 OK " " " "
 2306 KZUE 102.7 OK
 2309 KOPM 104.1
 2/20 (warm, wet)
 2240 KOOI 106.5 TX Jacksonville, \$ 250
 2245 WKTA 106.9 TN McKensie, ID, \$ 250
 2255 KPIX 99.5 TX Ft. Worth, \$ 285
 2300 KCBT 89.3 TX Dallas, ID, \$, 1500w 275
 2315 KODA 104.5 TX Dallas, \$
 2247-2315 many others from Dallas-Ft. Worth, \$
 2316 KGAF 94.5 TX Gainesville, ID, \$ 270
 2325 KITS 93.3 TX Killeen, ID, \$ 400
 2345 KMPA 89.5 TX Austin, \$, 1320 w 450
 2347 KUT 90.7 TX " " "
 2348 KLBZ 93.7 TX
 2359 KASE 100.7 TX
 2353 KMPH 96.1 TX San Antonio, \$ 550
 2355 KISS 99.5 TX San Antonio, \$
 2400 KITE 104.5 TX " " "

2/21
 0015 KHOO 99.9 TX Waco, ID, \$ 290
 1743 KJWS 94.9 TX Arlington, ID 280
 1800 KSUC 88.3 TX Keene, ID 1,800w 280
 1830 KBBW 88.9 TN Chattanooga, ID 400
 1832 WBYN 89.7 TN Chattanooga 400
 1912 KMMU 90.7 MO St. Louis 350
 1921 WKMS 91.3 KY Murray 375
 1930 KOSU 91.7 OK Stillwater, ID 270
 1940 KQID 93.1 LA Alexandria, ID 260
 2/23
 1005 KTLQ 96.3 AR Mountain Home, ID 150
 (99th freq. logged, took 18 months to catch, lack only 88.1)
 1915 KWMR 88.5 MO Rolla 250
 1730 WKKU 88.9 KY Richmond, \$ 550
 1800 WYLF 92.9 KY Lexington, ID 530
 1900 WKMS 91.3 KY Murray, ID, \$ 270
 1907 WKYQ 93.3 KY Paducah, ID, \$ 300
 1915 WBJ 92.3 TN Milan, ID, \$ 250
 2245 WKIR 104.1 TN Jackson, ID, \$ 250

Mike Dalton, 1840 Drew St., Clearwater, FL 33515

After reading through VUD, I must confess a certain envy for those making reports of any DX. The DX here has been virtually nil. The activity here has been a complete zero as far as Es to any area. There has been minor fr activity to the north which includes certain receptions from Georgia and South Carolina. The South Carolina activity has been mostly weaker than we normally experience. An unusual season to be sure, since we have had no receptions of trans Gulf tropo. This is wierd since we have been accustomed to strong Gulf tropo during the emergence of spring. There has been some reports of Tr activity to the north. Somehow the bending has excluded our area. As you can imagine, the lack of stations has caused great consternation. Overall, 1978 brought in fewer loggings than previous years; the levels for fr were down also. Since I have been fairly active over the years, it has been a big disappointment that we are having difficulties receiving even relogs. The start of 1979 has been skimpy to say the least. We are hoping that the Es will be "terrific"—if this season turns out like 1978, I'm going back to photography as a hobby! If it weren't for Earl Lyons, who DX'd from Belleair Bluffs just a few miles from here, I would swear that there was a breakdown in my antenna system. This brings me to a brief review of my equipment. Our FM receptions are made with an S&L (modified) Mark 8 digital tuner; this tuner has been stabilized for dxing and has high performance options made by my company, Dalton Audio. This tuner is linked to a stacked (vertically) pair of Finco FM-4G antennas mounted at about 25' above ground level. I also have a Revco digital tuner that I purchased over the summer, but so far I haven't had time to modify it. The complement of equipment is rounded out by various recorders. At the present time I am using a Tandberg RD 320 for recording because of its excellent response. I hope we all have a good year for DXing in '79. We need something to keep up spirits. Perhaps perseverance will pay off for members, but then, again, Mother Nature doesn't bend to our whims. Let's hope our members will have a good year; I for one look forward to some long reports. Best regards, Mike Dalton.

Randall B. Clark, RT5 Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101

My apologies for no contribution for the April-79 VUD column. I usually try to send contributions every month but as you can guess no or little DX of interest to report!

I'm still looking for an address book for most of the FMers in the US and Canada. Got any ideas where I can get a hold of one?? I plan a massive QSLing attempt on most of the FM Es/Tr catches this year, so if you have any info it would be greatly appreciated indeed!! (I think a publication of Broadcaster's Yearbook might help you. Try looking for it in a large library. BB)

Danny Buntin, 1020 S. Duncan, Stillwater, OK 74074

Like the last two reporters, I'm going DXless also, but that's expected in my location. DX here usually doesn't pick up until April or May. If not, then I'll feel exactly like Mike above. Winter, as if by magic, suddenly released its icy grip here in late February and throughout March, temperatures were above normal on almost every day. What a magnificent relief that made. As a result, I was delighted to see some of my fringe stations coming in like locals during some of those nice days.

As I complete my first year as editor of SFM, I would like to express my thanks again to those great members who have contributed to SFM. As a result, SFM has really made a positive turnaround. For many years, SFM just foundered along, seldom experiencing much regular support from reporters and editors alike. Now I doubt if few WFFDers can remember the column doing so well now. Consider what a mediocre year 1978 was for dxing and it's an even more remarkable feat. Thanks everyone for helping to make it possible. 73.

NORTHERN FM-DX

Ralph Strobel
2510 E. McCalliard Rd.
Muncie, IN 47303
(317) 288-5815

Deadline: the 10th

May 1979

For FM DXers in Canada, the Northwest-Central states of WA OR ID MT WY ND SD NE
MN IA MO and states east of the Mississippi River and north of the Mason-Dixon
Line. Send in your DX report for publication.

Only one report received this month from our faithful Canadian.
Winter E-skip noted below.

Peter Sawatzky - R.R. #4 - Guelph, ON N1H 6J1

Equipment: Pioneer TX-9500 Tuner with Delhi 1047 870 feet.

Loggings made on the automated setup are indicated with an asterisk.

<u>1978</u>	10/18-19	Es 2300-0800	KERA*	90.1 TX Dallas	1130
		(For loggings of 18-19, 2300 refers to time on the 18th and 0800 is time on the 19th. This applies to all dual dates.)			
	11/7	Tr 1901	WAUS	90.7 MI Berrien Springs	325
	12/3	GW 1100	CJBC-?	99.3 ON London	65
		(I'm not certain what # this repeater of CJBC is-assume London)			
	12/4	Tr 0700-1830	WMBI*	90.1 IL Chicago	375
	12/5	Tr 0500	WBOS*	102.9 WI Milwaukee	365
		0800-2230	WMBI*	90.1 IL Chicago	375
	12/6	Tr 0700-2200	WIAN*	90.1 IN Indianapolis	380
	12/8	Tr 0800-1800	WIAN*	90.1 IN Indianapolis	380
	12/11	MS 0800-1800	WEPR*	90.1 SC Greenville	605
		(Hear: "...WEPR, Greenville...")			
	12/16	GW 1100	CBE	89.9 ON Windsor	165
	12/17	Es 1200-2000	WOKF*	95.7 FL Clearwater	1080
		2007	KOFM	104.1 OK Oklahoma City	1045
<u>1979</u>	1/5	MS 0800-1730	KVMO*	90.7 NE Omaha	815
		(1st time by MS, previously heard by Es; lengthy burst with local weather heard.)			
	1/23	Tr 0800-1730	CIAK*	106.9 ON London	65
	1/24-25	Es 0800-1400	KESS*	93.9 TX Fort Worth	1170
		0800-1400	KWJS*	94.9 TX Arlington	1150
		0800-1400	KYKR*	93.3 TX Fort Arthur	1180
		0800-1400	KPFT*	90.1 TX Houston	1240
		0800-1400	KQUE*	102.9 TX Houston	1240
	1/29	MS 0800-2000	KQSC*	90.1 OK Edmond	1070
		(1st time by MS, previously heard by Es.)			
	2/14	GW 0032	CKQT	94.9 ON Oshawa	75
		(1st time heard by new calls, ex-CKQS.)			
	2/27	Tr 2135	WERG	89.5 PA Erie	100
		(1st time definitely heard on 89.5 MHz., previously heard on 89.1 MHz., although not apparently listed anywhere on new frequency; still 10 watts ??)			
	2/28	GW 2300	WJYE	96.1 NY Buffalo (ex-WBNI)	85
	3/7	Tr 2156	WCBF	88.9 NY Fredonia	90
		(Calls nor location never clearly mentioned, but assume new calls for WJQL Fredonia - 10 watts? Much local information given.)			
	3/18	Tr 2050	WHAD	90.7 WI Delafield	380
		2100	WBGL	90.3 IN Fort Wayne	300

All new loggings are underlined. Times are est. with distances in miles.

73, Pete

EASTERN TV-DX

Bill Thompson
1907 Seneca Street
Buffalo, NY 14210

May 1979

Deadline: 5th

March tropo conditions were quite good in the southeastern U.S., an evidenced by reports from Florida DXers. Loggings of over 40 miles on W1F and W1F and W1F were reported on several dates. The most significant activity was reported along the Atlantic coast, with more of the more spectacular Gulf reports than so far. We may see some Texas-Florida activity reported next time.

Most of the rest of eastern North America had severe weather in late March and early April, with everything from a frost-killing snow storm to severe ice storms and high winds in the northern Midwest and Northeast. As you know, this is hardly the kind of weather for great tropo conditions.

The sign of any real E-skip activity in March, as usual, the E-skip will probably be coming to life as you read this. Early April has seen one or two fair E-skip openings in southern areas.

We have some more reports of E-TV DX from this past February and March, and some interesting short of spectacular, with good video reported from at least Great Britain and E of continental Europe over 3000 mile paths in the northeastern U.S. I am not sure on what the exact date is, but the activity in late 1979 through early 1980 should be very productive.

Bill Thompson RD #1 Box 34-A Moscow, Pennsylvania 18444

On the earliest days of DXing in the early 70s, my one goal and dream was to receive the BBC video via E-skip. In this end, I purchased a British 405 line receiver last summer in time for rising solar activity. No sooner than I received the set, the BBC and French audio began coming in (late October).

About the same time that the W1F reached 45 M2 on various days, tuner problems caused nothing more than frame tears to be noted. Finally, at the end of January, the receiver was in perfect working shape. From March 8th, MUFs started to be going up again on the east-west path and audio was fading in unbelievably early--6:30-7:00 a.m. On the morning of March 15 at about 7:10 a.m., Bill Grant phoned me from Worcester, stating that he was beginning to receive video buzz. I quickly warmed up the set and swung the yagi towards

W1F. Weak traces of video were seen at 7:20 a.m. By 7:30 I was able to hold the vertical and horizontal rock steady. At 7:45, the video was as strong as strong E-skip but the distortion was unreal. It looked as if the signals were coming in from about 10 paths, with lots of JCI--such as in a jarred up E-skip opening--and what looked like a bit of aurora. The reports I've

about E2 video being smeared are something of an understatement.

Around 8 a.m. went in on the set (only about 10% loss) with good images, and contrast. This was seen by 8:15, and a great deal of pictures were taken and a lot of tape set away for developing.

The pictures were strong but one did appear thin, and stated that way in the afternoon we went from strong video to nothing. The audio faded in 30

minutes later and stayed until 3 p.m. Next day--the last day I have had audio--the audio came in at 8:30 a.m. and stayed in until 3:10 p.m.; not a trace of

video. The thing I have noticed along with Bill Grant, Jerry Bulce and others when the MUF was 41 M2, audio is good. When it rises around 45 M2,

41 audio is poor--this until it rises up to around 48 M2. Also, when the

audio is in a Russian paper was noted wrong frequency unknown

to being 17. Plans include a RHC for E-skip this fall. Several

other stations and receivers are expected for several months. In all my years

of DXing, nothing has or will ever come close to this--and what the video was

only watchable from BBC. My deepest thanks go to W1F A for Bill Grant,

constant monitoring, tips, and technical advice provided me, and to

Bill Grant, who did hour after hour of statistical work on the E-skip tuner.

Bill Grant includes 10 inch Sony, GE for sale, 10 inch 11.111 405-line with

receiver, General Master Super Color VHF antenna, 7' General Master HF

antenna, and Winegard preamps, CUB ham II rotators. Elevation:

2000' above sea level.

Jerry Police, WB2GPA 143 Gibson Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10308 (212)984-7325
 "It seems conditions got better after last Feb. 7. So much better, a 625 line picture was received on 48.25 MHz, on a regular U.S. TV and an up-converter to U.S. ch 6. The continental video on 48.25, and British audio on 48.27 were in for days, except that I only caught it at home one weekend. All reception 41-48 MHz F2:

February (BST)

- 11 F2 0900 French and English audio in at 41 MHz
 1045 Video on 45, strong picture very ghosty
 1230 Recognizable faces on 45 MHz, strong zero offset (barber-pole writhing thru picture).
 1250 BBC newscast on Iran--picture very watchable although ghosted, signals +60db over S9.
 1255 Band closed suddenly.
- 14 1030 625 line/50 Hz negative polarity video 50 + S9 on 48.25 MHz. Using a scope (at work--TV gear was at home)(?!#?) wave form was as follows at right:
 Evidently a test pattern with horizontal bars, mostly white--any ideas who this was?
- 15 1230 48.25 MHz 625 line video, 50 + S9, also 45 MHz 405 line in all morning.
- 16 1145 48.25 MHz 625 line video, 45 MHz 405 line all morning.
- 17 Back at home, 625 line 48.25 MHz TV rx ready.
 1150 Both BBC audio & video with 1 kc heterodyne on 48.25. 48.25 MHz video buzz up suddenly.
 1155 Horizontal & vertical lock on 625 line rx!--picture not recognizable, though.
 1205 BBC audio predominant now on 48.25--'Tom & Jerry' cartoons 50 + S9."
 1212 1 kc & 3 kc whistle on 48.25 BBC ch B2--also two identical stations offset either side.
 1228 'Pink Panther' cartoons on BBC ch B2.
 1301 BBC1 ch B2 still 50 + S9--note no sign of 45 MHz video all day.
- 18 1200 625 line lock again on 48.25, still not recognizable as to picture content.
 1330 45 MHz video very strong--ghosty picture--quit--never thought I'd get bored by 3000 mile TV reception!



No F2 activity noted since. Next fall, I plan to be ready with better equipment for all world standards. New rx will be a superhet, tunable from 40 to 65 MHz. Biggest problem here is selectivity, as competition for spectrum around 45 MHz is fierce. New receiver will have a better shape factor filter (allowing as much as a 2.5 MHz video passband conditions allowing) so pictures should be more watchable. Will also try videotaping DX off screen with a TV camera for standards conversion. 73."

Ken Simon 513 6th Avenue South Lake Worth, Florida 33460 (BST)

February	March	8 Tr	0556	WJK3-17 FL
15 B2 1558 unID-2 CCI	3 F2 0855	TF1-F2 FRANCE	0634	WECA-27 FL
17 F2 0945 1F-F2 FRANCE	0910	BBC1-B1 U.K.	0645	WJCL-22 GA
BBC1-B1 U.K.	21 1330	TF1-F2 FRANCE	0655	(WLTG)-19 SC
18 0915 TF1-F2 FRANCE	31 Tr 0630	WINK-11 FL*	0658	WOLO-25 SC
BBC1-B1 U.K.	0704	WFTV-9 FL*	0709	WEBA-14 SC
19 0901 TF1-F2 FRANCE	April		0715	WJWJ-16 SC
1030 BBC1-B1 U.K.	7 Tr 0630	W33AA-33 FL*	0728	WCBS-20 GA
20 1329 TF1-F2 FRANCE		WTVX-34 FL*		"very tough"
BBC1-B1 U.K.	1630	WJCL-22 GA	1200	WJWJ-16,
24 0930 TF1-F2 FRANCE	2200	WEBA-14 GA		WJCL-22, WJK3-17
"in for about 35 sec."		WJK3-17 FL	9	0558 unID-20 s/on

*--using set's internal antenna. F2 loggings audio only. "I'm back in the action again after a few months lay off...a good start 7th, 8th & 9th. 73s"

Wayne M. Thompson Route 2, Box 156 Silver Springs, Florida 32688 (BST)

March	10 Tr	1030	WRBL-3 GA	280	22 Tr	0550	WYRA-38 GA	280
10 Tr 0726	WSFA-12 AL	325	1150	WECA-27 FL	150	27	2200	WYRA-3 NC
0731	WDHN-18 AL	250	11	0012	WALB-10 GA	200	2226	WTQC-11 GA
0800	WYRA-38 GA	280	0050	WECA-27 FL	150	27	2300	WIS-10 SC
0829	WJCL-22 GA	225	0105	WITN-7 NC	550		2302	WJGA-8 GA
0859	WCIQ-7 AL	360	20	2359	WALB-10 GA	200	2330	WHLK-35 SC
0900	WTVN-9 GA	280	21	0010	WJHG-7 FL	220	28	0001
0930	WTQC-11 GA	225		0033	WJCL-22 GA	225		0001

February		10 Tr 0828		19 Tr 2220	
6 Tr	2307	W33AA-33 FL	WNTV-29 SC 447	WRJA-27 SC	373
		W64AD-64 FL	WNSC-30 SC 433	WTFP-28 SC	523
	2312	ZNS-13 BAHAMAS	WKAB-32 AL 394	WJPM-33 SC	408
		Nassau 348	WYEA-38 GA 341	WRLX-35 SC	385
12	0758	WJWJ-16 SC 290	0829 WRLK-35 SC 385	20	1200
	2238	WJWJ-16 SC 290	WCCB-18 NC 465	WCIV-4 SC	309
14	0618	WJHG-7 FL 274	0831 WRBT-36 NC 465	2345	WEBA-14 SC 320
	0623	WDHN-18 AL 301	0833 WJHG-7 FL 274		WRJA-27 SC 373
	0633	WFSU-11 FL 230	WMBB-13 FL 263		WJPM-33 SC 408
	0645	"CCI chs 6,10"	0836 WSPA-12 AL 380	21	0615
	0646	WMBB-13 FL 263	0838 WJBF-6 SC? T		WFSU-11 FL 230
		WYEA-38 GA 341	"20 to WDBO-6"		WDHN-18 AL 301
15	0715	WJWJ-16 SC 290	WTVY-4 AL? T		WJHG-7 FL 274
	0749	WDCO-15 GA 294	0844 WAIQ-26 AL 394		0650
	0754	WYEA-38 GA 341	WGIQ-43 AL 329		WMBB-13 FL 263
		WJJP-28 GA 357	0904 WJPM-33 SC 408	0656	WERG-5 AL 417
	0815	WATU-26 SC 337	0906 WRBL-3 GA 244		WRAR-3 AL 401
		WEBA-14 SC 320	1057 WALB-10 GA 329		0700-0730 "I'm busy"
	2030	WTTN-7 NC? T	2054 WMBB-13 FL 263		0730
18	0929	WCIV-4 SC 309	WFOU-11 FL 230		WMAA-19 SC 479
19	Es? 1644	WKYC-3 OH 887	WABW-14 GA 244		WALA-10 AL 415
		"in briefly--may	WJHG-7 FL 274		WRBT-33 LA 603
		have been long MS"	2238 WJPM-33 SC 408		"opening strength-
	Rs 1935	KFDX-3 TX 1078	WIS-10 SC 387		ening, but had to
		KLII-3 TX 978	WTFP-28 NC 523		leave. 0900 check
		KGBT-4 TX 1023	2240 WRJA-27 SC 373		FM in car--PACKED
28	Tr 2102	WMBB-13 FL 263	2241 WJWJ-16 SC 290	22	0000
	2200	unID-4 "strange	2243 WUNJ-39 NC 440		WDHN-18 AL 301
		20 kHz-type bars to	2305 WMAJ-3 NC 426		0002 unID-23 N.W.
		W, w/steady, slowly	"Evening opening		0004
		rising/falling whis-	witnessed by Ken		WGIQ-43 AL 329
		tle--seen several	Simon--another blow		WKAB-32 AL 394
		nights since..."	to the 'Law of Vis-		0005 Panama City V'a
	2322	WRBL-3 GA? T 12	iting DKers!"		0800
	2324	WGIQ-43 AL 329	2000 WEBA-14 SC 320	27	WABW-14 GA 244
			WJWJ-16 SC 290		0806
			2050 WRJA-27 SC 373		W33AA-33 FL 191
			WRLK-35 SC 385		0728
			WIS-10 SC 387		W33AA-33 FL 191
			2055 WITV-7 SC 309		W64A-64 FL 164
			2300 WCCB-18 NC 465		W61AA-61 FL 184
			WLTN-19 SC 392		W69AA-69 FL 190
			WOL-25 SC 380		1937
			WJPM-33 SC 408		WCIV-4 SC 309
			WRBT-36 NC 465		WITV-7 SC 309
			WATU-26 SC 337		2132
			2320 WRDW-12 SC 337		WGBD-2 SC 306
			"This is almost		2140
			getting boring, hi"		WEBA-14 SC 320
			2100 WJWJ-16 SC 290		WJWJ-16 SC 290
			0627 WJWJ-16 SC 290		2230
			WTFP-28 NC 523		WRJA-27 SC 373
			WJPM-33 SC 408		2305
			0636 WRJA-27 SC 373		WBTW-13 SC
			0702 WTTN-7 NC? T		WJPM-33 SC 408
			WCTI-12 NC? T		WRLK-35 SC
			0704 WYAH-27 VA 643		WUNJ-39 NC
			"in for about 8 min."		2332
			0757 WUNJ-39 NC 440		WITX-19 SC 392
			NUNK-25 NC		2333
			Greenville		WATU-26 SC 337
			0822 W33AA-33 FL 191		WIS-10 SC
			W61AA-61 FL 184		WRAT-3 NC 426
			W69AA-69 FL		2334
			Hollywood 190		WIS-10 SC
			0830 WCNB-41 GA 318		WRJA-27 SC 373
			0833 WDCO-15 GA 294		WJWJ-16 SC 290
			2220 WEBA-14 SC 320		WBTW-13 SC? T
			WJ-16 SC 290		0624
			WLEX-19 SC 392		WCSO-5 SC 309
					0625
					WLTN-19 SC
					WATU-26 SC? T
					0630
					WJWJ-35 SC
					WITV-7 SC 309
					0642
					WCIV-4 SC 309
					WGBD-2 SC 306
					0730
					WRDW-12 SC 337
March		April		April	
1 Tr	0840	WABW-14 GA 244	2 Tr	1950	Charleston V'a
7	0756	WABW-14 GA 244			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WEBA-14 GA 320			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	0757	WJWJ-16 SC 290			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	0758	WLTN-19 SC 392			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WATU-26 SC? T			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	0800	WATU-26 SC 302			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WYEA-38 GA 341			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2251	WRLK-35 SC 385			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2252	WJPM-33 SC? T			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
8	1200	WCIV-4 SC 309			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
9	2130	WEBA-14 SC 320			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WRLK-35 SC 385			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WATU-26 SC 337			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WYAN-9 GA 249			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		"under WFTV"			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2138	WIS-10 SC 387			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2158	WCRS-20 GA 329			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2202	WLTN-19 SC 392			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2227	WRDW-12 SC 337			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2237	WNSC-30 SC 433			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2246	WOL-25 SC 380			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	2247	WRBT-36 NC 465			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WCCB-18 NC 465			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
10	0827	WJHG-7 FL 274			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WIS-10 SC 387			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WFSU-11 FL 230			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WEBA-14 SC 320			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WJWJ-16 SC 290			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WDHN-18 AL 301			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
	0828	WLTN-19 SC 392			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WOL-25 SC 380			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27
		WATU-26 SC 337			WJWJ-16, WRJA-27

Rich Furcraas 7 Laver Circle Shelton, Connecticut 06484 (ES.)

<u>December</u>	<u>February</u>		
10 Es 2113 KACA-2 MN 940	9 Es 1948 unID-3 "WEAR?"	13 F2 1300 ORIF-F2 FRANCE	
17 1635 WJB-2 GA 720	2000 WPBT-2 FL 1050	14 1239 BBC1-B1 (Ø)	ENGLAND
1700 WSJK-2 TN	ATVJ-4 FL 1050		"promo for
Sneedville 580	17 F2 1225 ORIF-F2 FRANCE		'Calling Nation-
1800 WJAB-2 MS 1000	1300 BBC1-B2 (Ø)		wide' pgm, ex"
1856 WBRZ-2 LA 1080	ENGLAND		ORIF-F2 FRANCE
unIDs to ch 4	<u>March</u>	15 1445 BBC1-B1 (-)	
28 1803 KLEW-2 OK	5 At West Palm Beach, FL:		Llanddona WALES
Julia 1160	Tr 2000 WFTV-9 FL 150		"w/rock music
29 1500 WESH-2 FL 860	8 1927 unID-25	16 1439 BBC1-B1 (-)	program"
WBRZ-2 LA 1080	"WCIK xltr"		Llanddona WALES
	W69AA-69 FL		"w/'Wonder
<u>January</u>	10 0830 unID-9 "Cuba?"		Woman!"
31 GW 1433 WLIW-21 NY 35	13 Back at Shelton:		ORIF-F2 FRANCE
"testing new	F2 1230 BBC1-B1 (Ø) U.K.	19 1447 ORIF-F2 FRANCE	
xmtr at new			
location			

Winter DX, of course, is very seldom here, but thank to a Regency 'Touch' scanner I received for Xmas, I'm receiving the audio and video signals of the BBC and ORIF from Europe. Since the audio is AM, the scanner has trouble picking it up. But, by turning up the volume to almost maximum, it can be clearly received. Good to see that Fairfield County may get its first commercial TV station because of two applications with the FCC. It will be channel 43, but really isn't the first station. Channel 43 (as WICC-TV) operated as an ABC network affiliate from 1953 until 1968. Once WNUJ-47 and the dark WSNL-67 start their CIV systems, New York will have three pay-TV stations. (ATV-68 being the only one now). Visited West Palm Beach early in March, had trial for skip, but ended with good tropo and a possible channel 9 from Cuba which had a color bar test pattern. 73's"

Robert Goodman 5129 W. Roosevelt Road Apt. B7 Cicero, Illinois 60650

<u>September (JL)</u>	<u>7 Tr 0026</u>	<u>unID-49 IN 160</u>	<u>3 Tr 2230</u>	<u>WNRG-45 WBN 27</u>
6 Tr 2205 WHPB-40 IN 160	0034 WFTV-18 WI		2300 WTAZ-45 WFTV-5	
WFTV-55 IN 140	WLFI-18 IN		2330 WFTV-21 WFTV-55	
WLVP-47 IL 120	unIDs on ch 18	24 At Bronx, NY (E.T.)		
0030 unID-57 WBGU?	0106 unID-4	GW 2000 WBDN-43 CT 40		
unIDs on ch 3	9 0903 WKZO-3 MI	<u>February (CST)</u>		
2257 unID-56 WIVS?	<u>October</u>	26 Back at Cicero:		
2302 "CCI on 7, 9"	28 At Remington IN (CD.)	Tr 2050 WGVG-35 MI 130		
2323 WKBD-50 MI 240	Tr 2030 WISC-3 WI 200	WUHQ-41 MI 130		
2350 WFTV-20 IN 140	2100 WFTV-4 WI 160	2105 WLFI-18 IN 110		
2332 WKTX-19 KY 250	133 WFTV-6 IN 90	WFTV-20 IN 140		
2355 unIDs on ch 27	2200 WFTV-4 IL 170	2130 WJHR-13 IN 140		
2336 WCEB-22 OH 220	207 WREX-13 IL 140	0730 WJHR-13 IN 140		
"slaughtering	WQAD-8 IL 170	W22M-13 MI 130		
WSTV video"	2227 WFTV-12 IL 80	0759 unID-35 Ø WGVG		
2343 WKJG-33 IN 140	304 WFTV-10 WI 160	0930 WJRE-39 IL		
2345 unIDs on 62	9 (IL)	Rockford 80		
"probably WLVG, WQPR"	0630 WFTV-6 WI 160	1930 Peoria,		
0003 WLIC-35 OH 200	WFTV-6, WKZO-3	Rockford stns		
0012 unID-43 WJAB	0651 WISN-12 WI 160	<u>March</u>		
0017 KDUD-40 IA 16	<u>November</u>	17 Tr a.m. "some tropo		
0022 WLKY-32 KY 270	3 At Cicero, PA (E.T.)	22 in mornings"		
	Tr 2200 WTRF-7, WSTV-9			

In Cicero before I left, there was some more tropo (nothing special) on the mornings of September 1 and 2, and overnight October 1-2. The 9:10 a.m. we had report and a low alert with an inversion layer at 2,000 feet. The Carson Inn's TVs in Remington are fed (V&VHF) by a multi-element VHF antenna on a tall mast pointed N. Chicago. It must have a strong front/back, as evidenced by the paucity of signals from Indianapolis. The desk clerk said 'we don't get it'. The Carson Inn's were in on 10/28. Pittsburgh and New York were with indoor antennas. B/C TV audio was frequent in N.Y.C. early that winter. The Pittsburgh tropo came during a period of air stagnation, though some of those stations are normal for nearby hilltop locations. I'd seen WSTV at that house (my cousin's) some years ago, but I didn't think they usually get those stations, so I figure they're DX. The 9/7 Cicero logging of WJRE was a valuable catch, though I didn't know that until I recently sent for a QSL. They were testing at 1/2 power (low to start with) after xmtr failure!"

WESTERN TV-DX

May 1979

Fred McCormack
Box 5221
State University Sta.
Fargo, ND 58102

Deadline: 5th

There are three reporters this month. One is of recent DX and the other two are of 1978 DX. John Anderson had trouble with the mail last year and none of his reports reached Bill Block. He has forward his loggings to me, and I have condensed his loggings, listing all mention of Es and including all of his best loggings, some of which were very good. Pat Dyer provides some 1979 Es loggings. Hopefully Es should be occurring more frequently soon, especially in the south. Let's have lots of reporters next time!

New	New Mode	Tentative -	Unidentified -
John F. Anderson, Box 186, Lowe Farm, MS ROG 1EO (204)-746-8887 CT			
<u>December 1977</u>		<u>June 1978</u>	<u>August 1978 (cont.)</u>
26 Es 2000 unids		4 Es 0030 unid - 2 se	23 tr 2100 KRNE 12 NE 483
27 Es 1900 WDTN 2 OH		20 Es 2030 WPSD 6 KY	2345 KXON 5 SD 392
1915 KTVI 2 MO		2045 WLAC 5 TN	2346 KSPT 13 SD 405
(MUF ch 4)		2130 KARK 4 AR	KELO 11 SD 405
		24 Es 1100 KORK 3 NV	24 tr 2300 KYI 24 IA 470
		KMID 2 TX	25 tr 0000 WMTV 15 WI 575
<u>May 1978</u>			0020 WRAY 2 WI 550
2 AE 0059 CFAC 2 AB		<u>July 1978</u>	0115 WREX 13 IL 630
0130 CFJC 4 AB		11 Es 2200 unid - 2 se	0130 WISN 12 WI 622
0132 CHBC 2 BC		22 Es 1300 KPRC 2 TX	0150 WTHR 13 IN 897
CHKlt 5 BC		KOAI 2 AZ	0210 WLUK 11 WI 550
CHKMt 6 BC		KDBC 4 TX	0225 WBBM 2 IL 696
4 AE2100 CHSJ 4 NB		KTVX 4 UT	1830 WDSH 8 MN 300
CFCH 4 QU			
10 AE2238 CFAC 2 AB		25 tr 2200 K10IH 10 MN	
2355 CFCH 4 AB		<u>August 1978</u>	<u>September 1978</u>
(MUF 107.9)		5 Es 0130 unid - 4 w	6 tr 0110 WMT 2 IA 550
0010 KREM 2 WA		(eskimo announce.)	0115 WHO 13 IA 560
0013 KXLY 4 WA		11 Es 0045 KCKT 2 KS	0130 WEAU 13 WI 416
0030 (MUF 107.5)		13 tr 0240 KCCI 8 IA 560	0200 KRGQ 13 MO 785
0108 KCOBI 2 ID		1100 KDIN 11 IA 560	0215 KPLR 11 MO 816
21 Es 1400 WMAB 2 MS		WHO 13 IA 560	0225 WISN 12 WI 622
24 tr 0003 KOLN 10 NE 530		1250 WKBT 8 WI 481	0237 WISC 3 WI 975
2141 WEAU 13 WI 416		1900 KPTG 10 MN 432	0244 KCCI 8 IA 560
2127 WSAU 7 WI 470		1940 KIIN 12 IA 600	
(CKY off air)		2002 WABOT 12 WI 450	<u>December 1978</u>
29 Es 0000 KWSN 2 CO 765		0024 CBC at ch12 ne	9 Es 0000 WMAB 2 MS 1150
1900 CKPG 2 BC 1095		0105 WEAU 13 WI 416	31 AE70224 CPTK 2 BC
31 Es 1700 KOAI 2 AZ			(PAA's Queen Charlotte Islands)

Tropo on August 25 and September was just great! WTHR-13 Indianapolis is my best ever trop logging at 897 miles. There were also some interesting skip openings to the extreme east and west of Canada during this reporting period.

At the moment, my GM preamp is inoperable (possibly a bad transistor) due to a faulty RG-11u adapter at the pre-amp end. It seems to cause shorts as the antenna is rotated. I think I'll be able to remedy the situation by using RG-59 from the preamp to the tower and leave the RG-11u stationary. 73 and Good DX

Thomas Payne, 8430 West 35th St., St. Louis Park, MN 55426 CST

August 1978

13 tr 1126 WTVO 17 IL 270 I use a Channel Master 4251 7 foot paraboloid
WMTV 15 WI 230 dish.
1240 WIRL 19 IL 350

P.O. Dyer, 5315 Silvertip Drive, San Antonio, TX 78238

CST

Equipment: 1976 model 2 inch black & white Penncrest; Archer V 100 and 8 bay bow-tie UHF array at 20 feet with rotor.

March 1979March 1979 (cont.)March 1979 (cont.)

4 Es 1725-
1755 unids 2-5
2245 KNXTt 2 CA 1190
2250 KNBCT 4 CA 1190
2259 KORK 3 NV 1050
KOAI 2 AZ 355
5 Es 0000 KUTVt 2 UT 1080
0050 apx f/outs
0850-
0955 unids 2-6
0855 KORKt 3 NV 1050

5 Es 0915 KNXTt 2 CA 1190
0925 KHBC 3 BGN1010
0929 KETV 6 BGN1100
7 Es 0935-
1130 unids 2,3
0955 WBAYt 2 WI 1190
1100 KDALT 3 MN 1250
KTCA 2 MN 1110
3 tr 0055 WSTt 3 LA 450
0059 KPLC 7 LA 325
0100 WAFB 3 LA 450

9 tr 0150 KFDM 6 TX 275
KSLA 12 LA 350
0510 KNOE 8 LA 440
KLTV 7 TX 280
0525 KTRE 9 TX 265
KLFY 10 LA 395
11 Es 1030-
1100 unids 2,3 west
KNATT 2 CA 1190
26 tr 0529 KPLC 7 LA 325
28 tr 0111 WAFB 9 LA 450

A lot of trouble in month, but most of it in-state variety. The Es levels up a bit from what one expects in the lowest month of the year. Maybe some Es-linked TE next time. 73, WASIYX

Now my loggings:

Fargo Equipment - Broadmoor "S&W, heats 3R-2000, Inegard Ch-7078

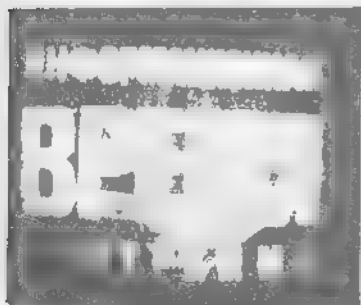
CST

March 1979April 1979

16 F2 1120-
1330 BBCt 41.50 audio

5 Es 1120-1200 KPRC 2 TX 1195

It was a very slow X p.m. Considerable auroral activity was noted, but no ID's. The DX gain seems to have been. Early on, was surprising, but it was very poor with about ten minutes of viewable signal during the period.



Here's an interesting extract from the March '79 Broadcast Communications magazine: "South Africa - Letters from viewers who reported the reception of unknown TV signals were received by the South African Broadcasting Co. (SABC). After an investigation, the SABC announced that the strange signals were being received from the USSR's EKRA satellite launched in 1976. The pictures were visible on ordinary television sets; and although of poor quality, the pictures were easily identified as coming from the Soviet Union." That's DX!

-contributed by Rod Luoma



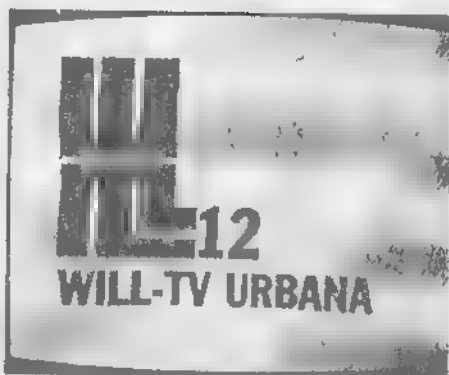
WTFDA 1979 REPRINT SERVICE CATALOGUE

To get your copy, send a S.A.S.E. to WTFDA HQ

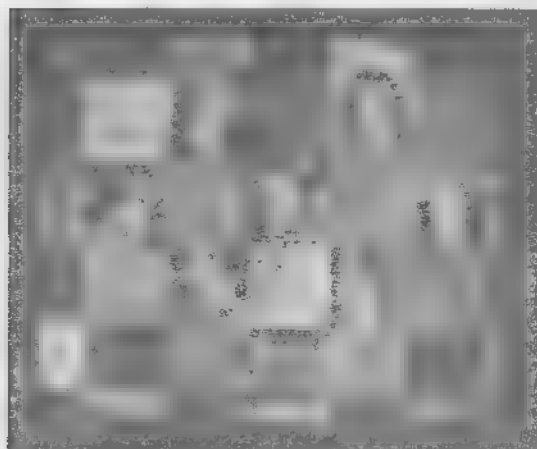
May, 1979



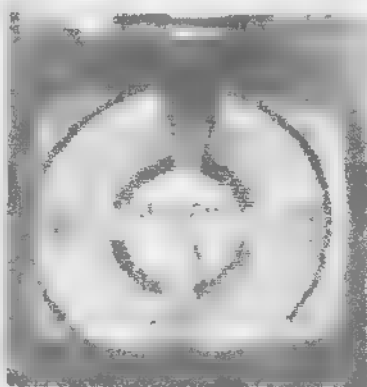
KIMT- 3 Mason City, IA
1,265 mile E-skip (Combs)



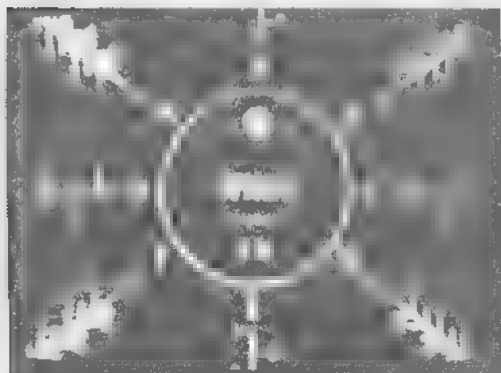
WILL-12 Urbana, IL
300 mile tropo (Gaines)



KARD- 3 Wichita, KS
E-skip (Barber)



WCBS- 2 New York, NY
meteor scatter (Simon)



WFEC 10 Rochester, NY
280 mile tropo (Gaines)

Don't miss Ken Simon's photo of
WCBS by meteor scatter (above) ...

Contributors:

John Combs,
Orlando FL

Paul Gaines,
Detroit MI

John Barber,
Carolina RI

Ken Simon, (photo taken at
West Palm Beach FL)

73 and good luck, *Jim*

TECHNICAL TOPICS



Q: "I'm considering putting up a stack of four FM yagis (quad stack) for DXing purposes. Can I use a regular TV antenna rotator for such an array, or should I use a special model?"

A: You'll need a good heavy-duty rotor, not the cheaper type of consumer TV/FM antenna rotor that's usually adequate for turning one or two antennas. Look for a model that's recommended for the largest arrays. A good quad stack of FM yagis can present a load of as much as 75 lbs. or more to be rotated, and wind loading is enormous, putting a large amount of stress on the rotor. The best choice of rotor for this kind of array would be one of the amateur radio/CB type units. These are more expensive (they start in the \$100-\$200 range, as compared to the \$50-\$100 range for most TV/FM rotors), but they are worth the price if they save such an array from high wind damage. In addition to being designed to handle the larger loads, they generally have much better braking action than a cheaper TV/FM consumer-type unit. You need this to prevent the array from "windmilling".

Q: "What should I use for mast supports in a quad stack?"

A: Don't use cheap masting materials! If you do, it won't be long before the stack is literally "bent out of shape"—remember, wind loading characteristics are very large for this type of antenna configuration. As a bare minimum, you should use 1½ inch 16 gauge seamless steel mast to support the antennas themselves, and the whole array should be supported by nothing less than steel pipe (such as water conduit) obtainable from plumbing supply outlets. In fact, some DXers use quad stacks employing an H-frame (vertical and horizontal supports) made entirely of such pipe. This makes the array quite heavier than it would be using conventional TV masting—but it also makes for a very sturdy quad stack!

Q: "Do I have to have a tower to put up a quad stack? Can't I mount it on a roof tripod?"

A: This type of array is very difficult to put up. You can put a quad stack on a good roof-mounted tower or tripod tower, but getting it up there may pose a problem. It's necessary to build the quad stack on the ground, and most (if not all) such arrays for FM cannot be carried up a ladder, so they must be "winched" up by some method, such as a crane if you're able to use one. If you have a flat roof, you can assemble it on the roof. Otherwise you may have to devise your own method of roof mounting one of these monsters! Obviously, a tower is much more practical for a quad array, and just about the only way to support it. The ultimate in towers for such a stack would probably be a tilt-over or crank-up model. These would make installation and maintenance quite easy—but they are much more expensive than regular towers, and have their own special set of problems themselves.

Q: "What are the advantages of quad stacks? Are they really worth the trouble? How much additional gain will they give you?"

A: The primary advantage is the increased directivity and very deep nulls that are created, something that the DXer is often in need of even more than increased gain. To the TV or FM DXer, they are most definitely worth the trouble involved, as they will add some stations to the log that just would not have been detectable with a single antenna. If you are serious about meteor scatter (MS) DX on FM or highband VHF TV, a quad array will give you above average results. The very deep nulls will make some semilocals easy to live with, and even possibly give you some DX on local channels, depending how far you're situated from your locals. In theory, you can get up to 6 db more gain (over that of a single antenna) with a quad array, but in practice, it will be more like 4 to 5 db, because of combiner and feedline losses. Even so, together with the excellent directivity that a quad array gives you, the additional gain makes a quad stack a really high performance DX antenna system. There's a considerable cost involved, but for the DXer with the space and resources available, a quad stack is well worth it.

Q: "Why don't they include coverage of the VHF aviation band (108-136 MHz) on programmable scanners such as the Bearcat 210 and Regency Touch? They seem to be ignoring this band. Is there some way to modify a programmable scanner for coverage of the aviation band?"

A: Most of the programmable scanners on the market today are designed for monitoring the narrow-band FM transmissions on the public service bands. Since PSB scanners are FM receivers, attempting to convert one to receive the VHF aviation frequencies would be a poor idea, since the most widely used type of modulation in this range is AM. Fortunately, it would appear that the programmable scanner manufacturers haven't forgotten this band. Regency has come out with a new digital readout programmable scanner designed for the VHF aviation band. The unit is the ACT-T-720A, and it's similar to regular programmable PSB FM scanners, with a SEARCH function and a 16-channel memory, LED readout, keyboard, priority channels, etc. The Regency unit is called the "Digital Flight Scan"—and it's similar in appearance to their "Touch" PSB scanners. It retails for around \$350; hopefully other scanner manufacturers will provide competitive units, and prices will come down. This type of scanner could prove to be a great "DX machine" for the 108-136 MHz band—Regency claims 1 μ V sensitivity and 55 db adjacent channel rejection. When used with a good yagi (such as a modified FM antenna), such a receiver should give you great DX results.

Q: "Why are many UHF TV stations reducing power?"

A: In most cases, they're not reducing coverage—just using more antenna height above average terrain at lower effective radiated power (ERP). One very dramatic example of this is the way that a UHF translator with 1 kw transmitter power and an ERI of only 20 to 40 kw or so can actually have wider coverage than a regular TV station on UHF with an ERP of 500 kw. The "secret" is in the height of the transmitting antenna, as UHF stations are finding out. Some of the "super" transmitters are sited on top of mountains, with heights of 2000' AAL not uncommon, while many regular UHF TV outlets have urban locations, and antenna heights of less than 700' AAL. As the cost of energy increases, it's to the advantage of a UHF outlet to go to a higher tower, because of the money saved in reducing power. New UHF high-gain transmitting antennas have made this transition possible; U's can now get more ERP out, versus transmitter input power.

Q: "If F2 skip conditions keep improving, will we be able to see co-channel interference from other continents here in North America? How will we be able to tell that it's foreign CCI?"

A: If the F2 MUF reaches high enough, you will. For instance, channel 2 in North America (or A2) has the same video carrier frequency (55.25 MHz) as channel 5 in most of Europe (or E3), with the exceptions of the British Isles, the Soviet Bloc, Italy, France, and Monaco. New Zealand's channel 2 also has the same video carrier frequency as channel 2 in North America. Like North America, channel 2, out of these areas are using offset frequencies, so the video carriers may be plus or minus 10 kHz above or below the nominal 55.25 MHz spot—and in some cases, "odd" offsets of 5 or 7 kHz are in use. In Europe and New Zealand, stations using 55.25 MHz for video carrier frequencies are transmitting 625-line pictures; the North American outlets are transmitting 525-line video. Because of the differences in standards, CCI from a 625-line video signal on a 525-line North American TV will look "weird"—it will look "slurred", and the picture will be hard to lock into sync. The weird CCI effects arise from the fact that the 625-line video has a different horizontal or line rate of 15,625 lines per second (North America's 525-line video has a line rate of 15,750 lines per second). This due to the fact that vertical rate (field rate) in North America is 60 Hz, and is 50 Hz in most of the rest of the world (based on local electrical standards). North American DXers may be able to lock 625-line video into sync by careful adjustment of vertical and horizontal sync controls on their sets, and should be able to see "most" of the picture, CCI and MUF conditions permitting. If you see foreign video via F2, there will be little doubt that what you're watching is "different". The "strangeness of the CCI" and "fuzzy picture" due to sharp MUF cutoff, together with the often extreme ghosting conditions, will make it quite obvious. Most of the 625-line systems use negative video modulation, as North America does.

VHF UTILITY DX

Pat Dyer
5315 Silvertip Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228
Deadline: 5th of month

MAY 1979

Neil Dickerson, 426 State St., Sharptown, MD 21861 Realistic PRG-1 with Channel Master #5C74 at 50 ft; Bearcat 12 for hi-VHF; EST used

2-18:	2-19:
1200 KMA475 46.18 S.F.,CA-f	1000 KMA526 46.18 S.F.,CA-f
KBP402 46.78 Huntington Bch,""	1002 KOP903 45.92 Dana Pt.,"-p
1204 KME358 46.34 Santa Ana, " "	KEU992 " " Hunt.Bch," "
1210 KMD655 46.14 Sunset Beach, " "	1009 KUL735 46.04 Lynden,WA-lg
1213 KMD397 46.38 San Pablo, " "	1010 KUV684 45.98 Castaic,CA-p
1215 KOK388 47.54 Lynden,WA-vh	1014 KXM824 " SantaRosa,""
1220 KMH304 47.66 S.F.,CA-amb	1030 KMG853 46.06
1221 KXA236 " Burbank,""	KMH292 " Eureka,CA-f
1225 KRX477 47.42 L.A., "-lg	2-21:
1227 KRJ722 46.38 Cypress,"-f	1100 KMA526
1230 KQY870 46.42 Somerset,""	1106 KIB295 46.00 CasaGrande,AZ-lg
KV3822 46.58 Salem,OR-f	1115 KCS579 47.54 Amarillo,TX-vh
1231 KME358 46.06	1121 KKB609 48.10 Eagle Pass,"-lg
1233 KYK434 46.10 Newport,OR-f	1125 KFA790 45.90 River Oaks,"-p
1240 KMB591 46.38 ElSobrante,CA-f	1136 KKS297 " Grapevine, " "
1243 KMH360 46.42 Stratford, " "	1200 KIT960 47.50 Gainesville,FL-vh
1250 KVN526 " Pollock Pines,""	2-25:
KMF94 " Sanger, " "	1130 KOF346 44.66 Tucson,AZ-p
1254 KGP693 " McMinnville,OR-f	KCI703 " Kingman, " "
1256 KYL587 46.48 Hunt.Beach,CA-f	1145 KOB639 " Parker, " "
1258 KFI924 45.64 McMinnville,OR-p	1151 KOB565 " Bigbee, " "
1259 KEC875 46.58 Portland,OR f	1200 KDP351 46.38 Carrollton,TX-f
1300 KSQ948 47.58 Bakersfield,CA-amb	3-2:
KMJ434 46.32 LaHabra, "-f	0800 KYE994 154.19 NY,NY-f
1301 KMG853 " BuenaPark, " "	3-3:
KMA466 " Pleasant Hill,""	1009 KGA346 154.19 UpperDarby,PA-f
1307 WSB48 46.02 Sonora, "-p	1026 KGA853 159.09 " " "-p
1309 KBB851 " Flagstaff,AZ-p	1730 KEB842 155.37 Oakhurst,NJ-p
1312 KIB294 46.04 CasaGrande, "-lg	3-4:
1316 KCM660 46.42 CrystalBay,NV-f	0708 KIC548 154.17 Norfolk,VA-f
1320 KMW456 46.26 GardenGrove,CA-f	0741 - 156.80 HamptonRds,VA-cg
1323 KMH904 47.54 SanMateo, "-amb	3-13:
1327 KXX608 47.46 ScottsValley,"-p	0800 KIK537 155.37 Williamsbg,VA p
1332 KML387 47.50 Olympia,WA-vh	3-16:
1334 KBP864 47.58 WallaWalla,""	2000 - 156.80 Norfolk,VA-map
1335 KMF876 46.38 Pittsburg,CA-f	2132 - " CapeHatteras,NC
1341 KCI607 47.56 Ferndale,WA-lg	-cg
1341 KML703 46.50 MillValley,CA-f	(amb-ambulance, f-fire, cg-coast
1347 KFC460 47.58 Santa Ana, " "	guard, lg-local government,
1400 KGW765 46.02 Pasadena, "-p	p-police, vh-veterinary hospital,
	map-marine police)

(several hi VHF loggings under 100 miles were deleted - pjd)

Martin J. Theil, 12 Princeton Dr. E., Holiday, FL 33589 is still very anxious to hear from other members regarding the Bearcats and various indoor antenna systems. Bearcat 210 with rod antenna, typical March loggings (EST)

1700 KTY214 39.50 Cut Bank,MT-cp	1706 KOA216 39.82 Great Falls,MT-cp
1710 KMA268 39.82 LA,LA cp	1722 KOA722 39.82 Missoula, " "
1724 KOG902 39.82 Twin Falls,ID-p	1726 KOG986 39.82 Gooding,ID

March 10.7-cm solar flux average down to 188, but when put into the calculations for the smoothed level the Cycle continues to rise well. Due to seasonal changes and magnetic activity, many things occur that didn't with much higher flux levels earlier in the year.

VHF UTILITY DX

MAY 1979

Randall B. Clark, Route 2 - Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101 GMT used

BBC Ch B-1 41.5 (TV audio):
 3-2 1440-1840 14: 1430-1925 (1815-1915, Davis & Crystal Pal.)
 3: 1510-1922 15: 1318-2026
 7: 1302-1910 16: 1330-2021
 8: 1320-1615 19: 1530-1705
 13: 1415-1915 20: 1415-1740, 1810-1925

BBC Ch B-2 45.0 (TV video): (No BBC Ch B-2 48.25 aud.)
 3-2: 1515-1530 15: 1320-1630 * or any 48.25 Ch E-2 vid.
 1725-1748 16: 1400-1703 noted in March.
 1805-1838

BBC Ch B-2 51.75 (TV video):
 3-15: 1502-1555 (first ever) 16: 1540-1645

TF Ch F-2 41.25 (TV audio):
 In on most days B-T in and alone on 3-9: 140-2030

During March 13-16 BBC video noted in ear. in the morning while the audio did not appear until the afternoon hours.

Now, my loggings. Hallicrafters SX-62, Hammarlund SP-600-JA 10, Allied A-2586, Patrolman (c. 1967); two 30' long wires at 12' ne-sw and nw-se runs; 49.5+ loggings on Swan 250 with Ameco navistor preamplifier and 5-el horizontal Cushcraft Yagi at 23' with rotor; all F2 unless noted (* Es, bs-backscatter) with daily MUF peaks given; new und r. n. d, CMF

3-6:
 1755 low-33 US
 1825 mid-45 Carrib.
 2000 KH6NS 50.1+ Oahu, HI-a
 2140 45.25 New Zealand (TV video)
 3-7:
 1401 KCH677 33.70 Fitchburg, MA-f
 KCB404 " Ashburnham, " "
 KCG342 " Barre, " "
 KCB778 " Berlin, " "
 KBA887 " Bolton, " "
 KCF337 " Boylston, " "
 KCA395 " Gardner, " "
 KCD582 " Harvard, " "
 KCC705 " Holden, " "
 KCB364 " Hubbardstown, " "
 1402 KDN599 " Paxton, " "
 KCN575 " E.Princeton, " "
 KCH585 " Rutland, " "
 KCD537 " Sterling, " "
 KCH239 " W.Boylston, " "
 KAV942 " Winchendon, " "
 1443 TF 41.25 (French TV audio)
 1515 50.075 Colombia
 1525 50 bs OH, OK
 1600 BBC 41.5 (England TV audio)
 1735 39 US, 2350 45.25 N.Z.
 3-8:
 0135 38.18 Russian, 1250 low-30 Rus.
 1314 KCD472 33.94 WindsorLocks, CT-f
 1400 KCA305 37.54 Eddington, ME-n
 1440 TF 41.25, 1447 mid-40 Canada
 1535 39 US
 1543 ----- 35.22 Wilkes-Barre, PA-vp
 1600 BBC 41.5, 1710 49.995 se
 2130 45.25 N.Z.
 3-9:
 0015 mid-39 Russian ?
 0057 KOA796 35.58 Portland, OR-tp
 3-9:
 1300 KCD498 33.70 Sandwich, MA-f
 1345 TF 41.25, 1359 US 39
 1430 BBC 41.5
 1433 ----- 35.58 Scranton, PA-vp
 1440 hi-39 Canada, 1920 nr 48 Span.
 2100 44.25 N.Z. (all 3 off sets)
 2310 38.87 Russian
 2311 FCB38 37.48 Seattle, WA-light
 3-10:
 1328 D Welle 30.30 (Carib.relay)-ha
 1430 44.98, 1625 39 US (Mass)
 1720 50 bs CA
 1950 50.75 N.Z. (TV audio)
 2050 51 bs CA
 2100 2L1AVZ 51.1+ Auckland, N.Z.-a
 2L1AUM " " " "
 2215 45.25 N.Z.
 3-11:
 1443 Wilkes-Barre, 15: " " US
 2015 50.76 N.Z. (TV audio)
 51 bs CA
 3-12:
 1350 TF 41.25, 1405 41.7 Russ.
 1448 KCA305
 1450 KCA346 37.54 Ellsworth, ME-
 2250 45.25 N.Z., 2325 49.6
 2330 mid-39 Russian
 3-13:
 1352 TF 41.25
 1422 KCG405 37.54 Bangor, ME-he
 1447 BBC 41.5, 1505 40.05 Russian
 1725 KOA796, 2130 45.25 N.Z.
 2313 " " 2345 mid-30 Russian
 3-14:
 1309 KCI299 35.22 New Haven, CT-tp
 1EA860 " N.Y., NI-
 1328 TF 41.25, 1335 BBC 41.5
 1550 R.Moscow 38.87-ha; 39 US

VHF UTILITY DX

MAY 1979

(Dyer, cont.)

3-14:
1755 KUA288 35.22 Portland,OR-tp
1813 KOB238, 2230 49.6
2309 KOP303 35.46 Langley,WA-mp
2348 KLF527 35.22 Honolulu,HI-tp
2355 mid-37 Russian
3-15:
1350 TF 41.25, BBC 41.5
1427 R.Moscow, 1433 KCA305
1455 BBC 45 (TV video)
1555 44 Russian
(1558-1635, local power outage)
1628 KCI299, 1700 44+ Spanish
3-16:
0110 37.80 Russian
1355 BBC 41.5, 1357 W.-Barre
1402 39 US, 1425 TF 41.25
1425 mid-40 Canada
1520 BBC 45, 1715 49.6
3-17:
0020 KUA288
1331 KCG491 33.66 Wallingford,CT-f
1708 Scranton, 1710 39 US
1940 50.76 N.Z., 2247 49.81 se
3-18:
0018 mid-37 Russian
1319 KCI299, 1520 KEA860
1600 mid-36 Russian, 1835 49.6
2000-2115 50 bs FL,OK,Mex,CA
2125 45.25 N.Z.
3-19:
0000 hi-37 Russian
1348 Scranton, Wilkes-Barre
1440 KCA346, 1800 49.68
1855 50 bs CA
3-20:
1600 mid-37 US ne, 1915 low-46 Span.
3-21:
0000 low-38 Russian.
1350 35.03 " , 1537 KCA346
1915 49.6, 1940 45.25 N.Z.
3-22:
0005 low-37 Russian
1803 KCA695 33.78 Manchester,NH-f
1815 low-35 US, 1920 49.6
3-23:
1335 low-35 US
1431 KCA378 33.82 NewHaven,CT-f
1440 36 Canada, 1528 46.8
3-24:
1505 49.6, 1816 KOB238
3-25:
1405 low-35 US ?, 2305 49.6
2350 low-38 Russian
3-26:
1327 D.Welle, 1748 49.915
1815 35 US nw, 2350 45.25 N.Z.
3-27:
1810 35 US nw, 2005 49.80 se
2110 30.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
3-28:
1900 (apx) 35 US
2000 KH6IAA 50.1+ Hilo,HI-a
KH6NS, KH6EQI (Oahu)

3-28:
2100 ZLIACL 51.1+ Auckland,N.Z.-a
ZLIACVZ
2110 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
2200 49.6 se
3-29: (magnetic storm)
1955 49.6 se
3-30:
1-55 mid-37 US ne, 1558 KCI299
1935 LU8DIN 50.1+ Mar del Pl.,Arg-a
2110 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
3-31:
1950 LUBAHW 50.1+ B.A.,Arg.-a
2110 45.25 N.Z. (1600, hi-33 US)
4-1:
1500 KUA288, 1720 KLF527
2125 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
2203 ZLIACVZ 51+, 2305 50 bs TX
4-2:
2100 49.955, 2340 45.25 N.Z.
4-3:
1615 35 US nw, 1905 49.6 se
2110 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
4-4:
0020 45.25 N.Z.
1240 KOB257 35.22 Phoenix,AZ-tp *
1425 PY2XB 50.057 Sao Paulo,B.-a
(cw beacon)
1644-1742 50 LU4HLM,LU8DIN,LU8EEM
1858 KUA288, 2128 45.25 N.Z.
2125 46.25 Australia (TV video,
2225 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
4-5:
0310-40 CE3TS 50.1+ Santiago,Ch.-a
0400-45 CE4CF " Talca,Chile- "
1915 US 30-31
1935 LU8EEM 50.1 Lincoln,Argentina-a
2010-2125 50 bs TX,WA,MO
2050 KH6EQI, KH6NS, KH6IAA
2120 50.74/.75/.76 N.Z.
2140 45.25 N.Z., 46.25 Australia
2210 ZLIACVZ 52+
2215 ZL2CD 52+ Wellington,N.Z.-a
2250 51.75 Brisbane,Aust.(TV audio)
2330 VF4PU 52.05 Woombye,Aust.-a
4-6:
0000 WJBPV 51.998 New Hebrides-a
(fsk beacon)

(a-amateur, f-fire, ha-harmonic,
he-hydroelectric, mp-mobile phone,
tp-tone pager, u-utility,
vp-voice pager)
ZS6 beacon heard in Japan & Dom.Rep.
Pyl beacon (50.004) into Greece
ZE (432) into Greece
52 Australia to Florida,Mexico,C.Z.
51 N.Z. to Puerto Rico
50 W5,6,7,VE7 hrd in Tasmania
50 Florida to Fiji
50 TX hrd in Darwin

73, Pat

WA5IYX

IN SEARCH OF PSB

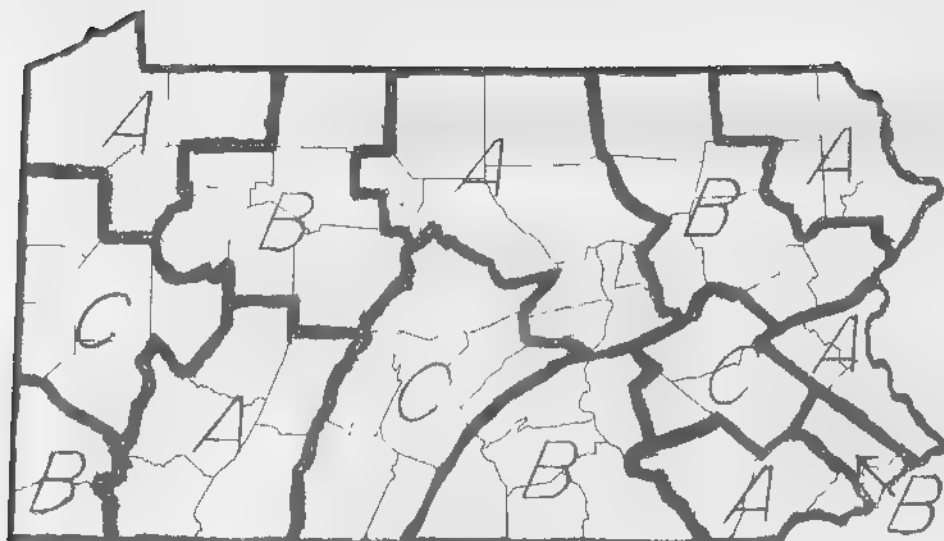
Don Blevins
1715 Earhart Road
Baltimore, MD 21221

IN SEARCH OF PSB....This information about low band government comes to us from George Du Bois of Portland, Oregon. George will explain this information himself. I sincerely hope this information is of help to you.

Most of the activity in the government portions of the VHF-low band (29.8 to 50 mhz) is done by the Department of Defence, which should come as no suprise. There is some Marine Corps activity, but the vast majority of the spectrum is used by the Army (our own and other countries). This list details the most used frequencies for Army air support. It is by no means complete, nor does it include the great number of frequencies used for maintenance or other ground support activity.

FREQ	NAME-LOCATION	ACTIVITY
30.25	Holman Field St. Paul, MN	National Guard Operations
30.50	McGuire AFB, NJ	Army Operations
31.20	Feucht AAF, West Germany	Army Radar
31.20	Finthen AAF, West Germany	Army A /G
31.80	Coleman AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
31.80	Furth AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
31.80	Grafenwohr AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
31.80	Hersfeld AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
31.80	Kirchgoens AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
31.80	Kitzingen AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
32.10	Robert Gray(Ft. Hood) TX	Army Tower
32.30	Grey AAF (Ft. Lewis) WA	Army Operations
32.50	Wildflecken AAF, West Germany	Army Range
33.20	Amberg AAF(Dofering) West Germany	Army A/G
33.20	Coleman AAF, West Germany	Army Radar
33.20	Erlangen AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
33.20	Fluda AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
33.20	Kitzingen AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
33.20	Wertheim AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
33.60	Finthen AAF, (Mainz) West Germany	Army Tower
33.60	Friedberg AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
33.70	Darmstadt AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
34.15	Springfield, OH	ANG "wolf cub"
34.50	Biggs AAF(Ft. Bliss) TX	Army weather
34.70	Indianapolis(Brookside) IN	AN Operations
34.80	Karlsruhe AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
34.80	Sabre ARP(Ft. Campbell) TN	Army Tower
35.00	Winder, GA	NG Operations
35.40	Hanau AAF, West Germany	Army Radar
36.20	Capitol City, KY	NG Operations
36.30	Hood AAF(Ft. Hood) TX	Army Range
36.50	Helena, MT	NG Operations
36.70	Biggs AAF(Ft. Bliss) TX	Army Tower
36.70	Lawson AAF(Ft. Benning) GA	Army Tower
36.80	Mueller Muni.(Austin), TX	NG Operations
37.00	Grayling AAF, MI	Army Tower
37.00	Troy Municipal, AL	Army Tower
37.40	Bad Kreuznach AAF, West Germany	Army Tower
37.40	Bayreuth AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
37.40	Fulda AAF, West Germany	Army A/G "Carillse"
37.40	Heidelberg AAF, West Germany	Army Radar
37.40	Ludwigsburg AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
37.40	Schweinfurt AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
37.50	Babenhausen AAF, West Germany	Army A/G
37.50	Furth AAF, West Germany	Army Tower

NG- National Guard ANG Air National Guard AN-Army Reserve A/G Air to Ground AAF- Army Air Field ARP- Army Heliport



PENNSYLVANIA-

Highway Maintenance

Statewide
47.30 Base 47.38 Mobile
West 47.38 Base & Mobile
East 47.14 Base & Mobile

STATE POLICE

Base Mobile

A 155.58 155.79

B 155.67 155.91

C 155.505 155.85

154.755 Car to Car

42.60 Barrack to Barrack

Thanks to:

Craig G. Willard
G-33 Montgomery Court
Marbeth, PA 19072

Kevin L. Slater 1167 Ring Street NE Salem, OR 97303 reports:

Salem Memorial Hospital:

155.34 KXC 851 Primary Ambulance and Fire rescue Mobile to Hospital Channel
155.385 KJJ 463 Paging only
155.40 KXC 851

Salem Police Department:(both use morse code L's)

F-3 460.075 KTB 200 Main Channel Repeater
F-1 460.475 KVA 537 Auxiliary channel repeater

Marion County Fire Channel utilization:

South Marion County 154.415
North Marion County 154.16
Marion County Fire District #1 154.385

Bryan Ross 128 Primrose Chatam, Ontario N7L 4N7 reports:

Chatam City Police 142.185
Ontario Provincial Police 166.64
168.74
RCMP.....42.84
41.82
Ontario Provincial Police 42.06
42.22

Chatam Ambulance 150.10

International Harvester:

Security 163.20
Managment 457.7375
452.725
Stock Dept 475.60
454.20

Thomas J. Yingling, Jr. 221 Pinewood Road Baltimore, MD 21221 reports:

"It seems as though Virginia State Police are undergoing a change to VHF-High"

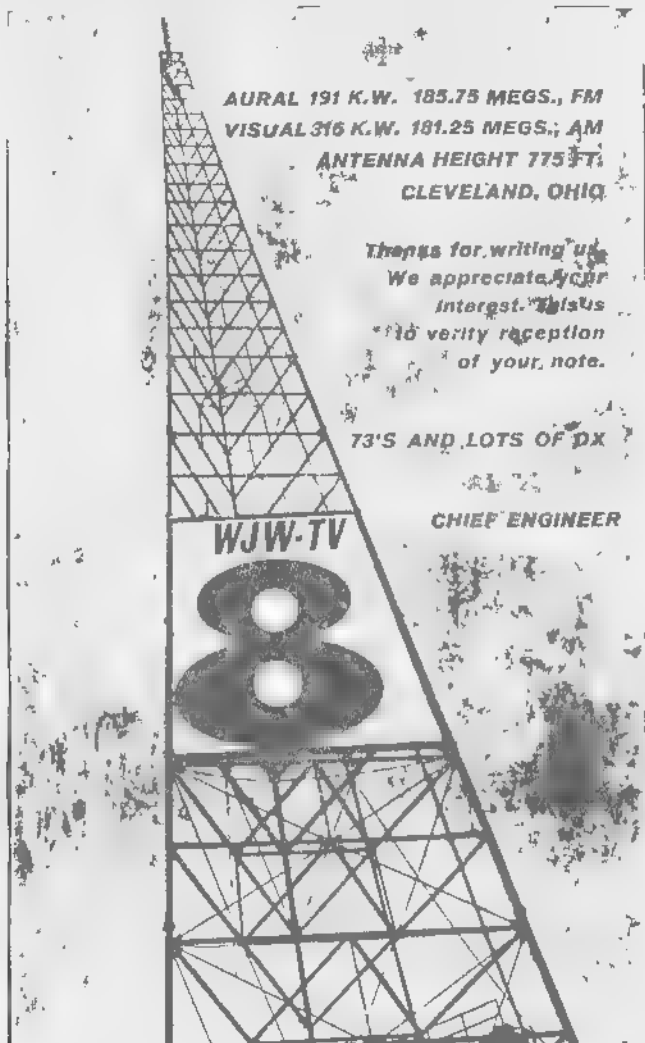
158.985 159.00 159.135 159.165.....most with repeaters, and simulcast with old Low Band VHF.

Memorabilia

May 1979

Robert J. Williams
251 6th Avenue East
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Phone: (208) 733-3621
Deadline: 5th of month

This month, MEMORABILIA presents a grand old QSL card of WJW-8 (now WJKW-8) in Cleveland OH, sent in by Tom Yingling, Jr. Thank you very much, Tom! Mucho gracias!!!



That's it for this month, guys. See y'all in 30, amigos. 73s, and DX,
Bob

QSL CORNER

Thomas L. Dalton, Jr.
c/o Inevco World
Baltimore, MD 21222

REPORT

- CO KPOD 95.1 Colorado Springs, send letter in week from Ed Wittrock, Manager confirming reception. Also send a complete rate/ad folder. Dalton
- CA KSOJ 96.3 Jessup, Raymond R. Forehand, Manager verifies saying this was the lowest distance they have been heard. Elvine
- CAN 101.7 Warner Springs, Kevin Scott, Program Director, letter verifies, & makes the mistake of saying that they are only vertically polarized. Elvine
- IN WWS 95.5 Indianapolis, 2255 W. Hawthorne Ln, 46218. Letter from Norman Phillips, CE "...it is the most distant verification letter we have ever received." Sawatsky
- MI 100.5 Kokomo, 304 W. Main, 46901. Handwritten letter from Charlie Cropper, Program Director. Describes his own radio experiences & state that several people at the station are ham radio operators. Sawatsky
- MMH 102.5 New Castle, P. O. Box 690, 47362. 2 letters from Randy Henderson, CE "We like to show our stations off—especially to people who listen to us from far distances." Sawatsky
- PIA 101.7 Jackson, 131 E. Main St, 47201. Letter from Chuck Young, Chief Operator, "It is our first letter from Canada." Sawatsky
- RM KBO 97.1 Jackson, 101 E. Main St, 47201. Letter from The Big Toney, Program Director, confirming reception. Dabney is a boxer & related a story of a regular listener in San Antonio (Pat Dyer, I presume?). He also told of 2 reports from New Zealand—I would like to know who did this!!! Dalton
- NE KOOO 104.5 Omaha, Box 77, 68131. Letter from Larry Selvie, CE Eddie
- NY WPTD 97.1 Syracuse, P. O. Box 111, 13201. Send me 4 WPTD Carl, obviously they never read my report, so you'll have to try a bit harder for this station. Sawatsky
- OR KORN 91.7 Willamette, OR State Univ, School of Journalism & Broadcasting, 7407A. Letter from Dan Schroeder, CE. Zank
- VTEN 92.3 Aja, Box 10, 7280. Nice letter from James Lollar, CE, included rate card & coverage map folder. Zank
- CO WEPB 90.1 Greenville & South Carolina Educational Television Network, Drawer L, 2712 Millwood Ave, Columbia, 29250. Letter & network coverage map from John C. Rich, Sr. Studio Engineer in 2 weeks. Mentions he is an swl & reports that WMPR 88.1 has been heard in FL & WI. Sawatsky
- VA WWS 100.5 Norfolk, 5600 Curlew Dr, 23507. Very specific letter from Jim Radiak, CE, but took a follow-up report. Zank
- WFLS 92.3 Fredericksburg, 616 Amelia St, P. O. Box 597, 22401. Report signed L. William Poole, reply in 14 days. Sowinski
- WY WYPR 91.7 Jackson, P. O. Box A1, 85401. Send letter, coverage map & program guide. Report & letter signed by H. Leon Dye, Jr, CE in 12 days. Sawinski
- WVFE 100.5 Huntington, 623 1/2 Ave, 25701. Letter from Raymond P. Thompson, Chief Engineer. Sawatsky
- WVTH 88.0 Richwood, West Virginia Wesleyan College, 26201. Letter back in 26 days from Ronald E. Roth, Dir. of Broadcasting. Sawatsky
- WI WLSV 95.1 Marinette, 100 Calow, CE mentions using non-ID FM95 as the station identity except for hourly legal id. Elvine
- WYTH 95.4 Minocqua, Michael Hoffman, (Use Michaels) writes, but wonder how I got his name to write to, as he never gives his real name over the air (I got it from a Chicago broadcast announcing school from which he graduated—their newsletter) & verifies & apologizes for their not answering the 2 previous letters I send. Elvine

Reporters are: Mike Dalton, Mike Elvine, Peter Sawatsky, Richard Liddle, Neil Zank, Robert Sowinski. This was an all for month again. With one note of to gl, I got my second QSL back for ch. 46. 51% for North necessary for. Also the 7th convention is well into the making here in Baltimore, so be looking for info. And also I need some more QSL reports to make this column go on without always having the same reporters report. 73% Tom

ALASKA MINI-TV

by Rod O'Connor

An unusual aspect of television broadcasting is taking place throughout the great Northland, with the growth of small 10-watt TV stations. As of November 1978, there were over forty "MINI-TV" stations on the air, scattered throughout the state of Alaska. Upon taking a look at the accompanying map, one can see that most of the stations are located over remote North Slope, and Interior sections of the forty-ninth state.

Unlike commercial repeaters and translators, each Mini-TV station consists of a ten-watt transmitting unit. Each unit has had its receiver replaced with a modulator, which accepts base band audio and video inputs.

There are two separate systems of program origination. As of November 1978, twenty-two communities were receiving their programming via satellite. Four and a half-meter earth station antennas receive the satellite signal at each community. The satellite delivery system is funded by the state of Alaska, under a project to demonstrate the feasibility of satellite TV in remote sections. Most of the earth station dish antennas were originally installed for telephone communications, with the TV antennas added in the past few years.

The other system of program origination consists of individual stations producing the programming locally, and then feeding it to a rebroadcast station. The rebroadcast stations are located in Anchorage, Bethel, and Fairbanks. The local stations are paid to the community by the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission, and played back over the local station.

For the DXer, identification of some of these stations can be very difficult. The tapes which are sent out to the local stations are received directly off the air from the rebroadcast station in Anchorage, as well as from Public Broadcast Stations in Bethel and Fairbanks. It is very easy to confuse the Mini-TV stations with the many commercial translators operated by the Anchorage and Fairbanks commercial stations.

In a personal note, while I was stationed in and the Coast Guard Cutter IRONWOOD this past fall, I was watching *60 Minutes* at Unalaska, while our ship was moored at Dutch Harbor. After watching the show, which was played by tape, I was surprised to see a KIMO TV 13 ID, as well as network and Anchorage commercials being broadcast over the air!

The next day I visited KØNHO, whose studios are located in the local Unalaska School, and got to see the station in operation. There I learned the basics of the Mini-TV networks. It is not unusual at all for the Mini-TV stations to broadcast programming from Anchorage, complete with commercials and IDs over the air. It probably would be illegal anywhere else, but with the remoteness of the Aleutian Islands to consider, it is unlikely the F.C.C. would take much action.

Once again, it would be wise to remind DXers of the extreme difficulty in finding these Mini-TV stations. A couple of points to bear in mind though: Mini-TV stations only broadcast for a few hours during the late afternoon and evening. The commercial translators usually stay on the air for much longer hours, as do the commercial stations in Anchorage and Fairbanks. Also, the Mini-TV stations usually do ID after each cassette runs out, and a new one is played. If you are one of the lucky people who does catch a Mini-TV station, feel proud that you have captured a rare station!

LOCATIONS OF ALASKAN MINI TV STATIONS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100





The following is a list of Mini-TV stations in Alaska:

SATELLITE NETWORK

Amanak KØ7OP
 Ambler KØ7QM
 Anaktuvuk Pass KØ4IX
 Barrow K11NN
 Cape Poll KØ9NP
 Gambell KØ7CN
 Holy Cross KØ9NJ
 King Cove KØ4HR
 Kipnuk KØ7OL
 Larsen Bay KØ7OO
 Mekoryuk KØ9NI
 Noatak KØ9NG
 Nulato KØ4JF (As per Oct.78 V.U.D.
 and F.C.C. TV News)
 KL2KS (AFTV8 Galena xltr)
 Old Harbor KØ9ND
 Perryville KØ9NK
 Pilot Point KØ9NO
 Saint Paul K. FM
 Savoonga KØ9HL
 Shageluk K1ØKH
 Shungnak KØ9NH
 Tatitlek KØ9NE
 Tenakee Springs K1ØRG

TAPE SYSTEM

Angoon KØ2JI
 Chitina KØ9NF
 Fort Yukon KØ2HQ
 Kake KØ2??
 Kaktovik KØ4IU
 Kiana KØ4IG
 Kivalina KØ4IG
 Klawock KØ2TW
 Little Diomed Island KØ7OS
 McGrath KØ2IE
 Noorvik KØ4IK
 Nuiqsut KØ4IS
 Point Lay KØ4IT
 Saint George KØ4IE
 Sand Point KØ4HV
 Unalaska KØ2HO *
 Wainwright KØ4IR
 Whittier KØ2IM
 Yakutat KØ2ID

* Note - KØ2HO Unalaska, also broadcasts over translator KØ8IW at Captains Bay, two miles south of Unalaska on the south side of a mountain. KØ8IW has a power output of one watt.

Information for this article was obtained from the State of Alaska, Governor's Office of Telecommunications; State of Alaska, Department of Education, Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission; and the Unalaska School Department.

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